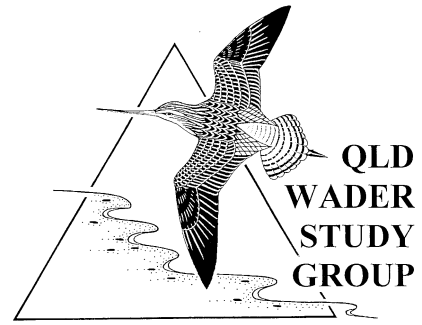


QUEENSLAND WADER



Issue number 53

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

The Southern Gulf Report

The Southern Gulf Aggregation Wetland

The Southern Gulf Aggregation is a broad aggregation of wetlands listed in *The Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia* (Environment Australia 2001)¹. It comprises the coasts and estuaries as well as sub-coastal ephemeral (intermittent) freshwater lakes, swamps and seasonally inundated grasslands. Comprising 345,000 hectares, it extends from Point Parker west of Burketown to the Smithburne River north of Normanton. It is one of the three most important sites for international migratory shorebirds in Australia, the most important in eastern Australia (Watkins 1993)². Surveys have shown that this area contains more than half of Queensland's migratory shorebirds, 16 species of which are internationally significant.

Southern Gulf wetlands play an important role in the ecology, biodiversity and overall function of many waterway systems as well as the productivity of the marine areas in the Gulf. The listed important wetlands of the Southern Gulf, of which the Southern Gulf Aggregation is but a part, cover more than 25 000km²

The Russell Patrol: Raising awareness of the need to conserve shorebirds, waterbirds and their habitat in the Southern Gulf

The Southern Gulf Catchments Ltd assisted WWF Australia in a shorebird conservation project in the southern Gulf. This project is part of the Shorebird Conservation Project funded by the Natural Heritage Trust and coordinated by WWF Australia. Russell Kelly (WWF) led the project together with the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG) (Sandra Harding and David Milton) and Jim Tait from Econcern. We travelled to the Gulf and met with station owners and managers and traditional owners from 15 – 29 May 2005. The project aimed to raise awareness with landholders and managers about the birds in the wetlands of the southern Gulf of Carpentaria as well as research current and historical wetland management practices and the needs of wetland managers.

We visited a selection of different wetlands during a whirlwind tour across the southern Gulf. Our bird list of 134 species was recorded over the trip, see list below. While the waders or shorebirds had mostly migrated, and the wetlands were drier than normal, a good diversity of bird species was recorded including many waterbirds.

¹ Environment Australia (2001). *A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia*, Third Edition. Environment Australia, Canberra.

² Watkins, D. (1993). *A national plan for shorebird conservation in Australia*. RAOU Report No.90, Australasian Wader Studies Group, Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union and World Wide Fund for Nature.

² Barrett et al 2003: *The New Atlas of Australian Birds*, Birds Australia, Victoria

The most interesting observation was of Freckled Duck, which The New Atlas of Australian Birds³ did not record in Queensland north of Mt Isa. We observed Freckled Duck on wetlands on Wernadinga, Magowra, Inverleigh and Delta Downs Stations. These new sightings may reflect the lack of bird surveys done in this region and a winter movement of birds from Lake Eyre and Murray-Darling Basins where they breed. It is generally thought that the maximum population of Freckled Duck is less than 20,000 and it is listed to be of conservation concern nationally.

Another unusual species sighted was the Crimson Chat. Crimson Chat is an arid and semi-arid species, which we found well dispersed though out the whole southern Gulf region. We saw them in mangroves and on coastal salt marshes near Burketown possibly reflecting an influx of birds to the southern Gulf area. The adult male Crimson Chat has a striking scarlet cap, which we all enjoyed seeing as it fed on the ground in small groups.

We were exposed to a completely new range of management issues affecting shorebirds and their habitats in the southern Gulf. Cattle, feral animals such as pigs and horses, weeds and fire were all impacting on the freshwater wetlands. The issues varied between properties, but landholders and managers all face a difficult task to manage their large properties.

The 'Patrol' visited seven of the ten properties that adjoin the coast in the region known as the "Southern Gulf Aggregation". This region goes from Traditional Owner lands north of Doomagee, past Burketown and Normanton, to Delta Downs, north-east of Karumba.

All land managers were keen to protect and manage their freshwater wetlands to maintain their value for shorebirds and waterbirds. Many have fenced some wetlands to restrict cattle access and reduce their impacts on fringing vegetation. At each property, we talked to the land managers and their families about shorebirds, waterbirds and wetlands. We gave them specifically prepared kits that contained information to identify their shorebirds and waterbirds, as well as other information on the ecology of waders in the southern Gulf region and the region's importance in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

Russell promoted the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Site Network. All wetland managers/leaseholders and Traditional Owners interviewed showed interest in participating in this site managers' network.

Our field trip contributed greatly to our understanding of shorebirds and other water birds in the Southern Gulf and the challenges wetland managers face. We hope to develop a long-standing relationship with this important shorebird region and support the managers' Flyway Site Network as best we can.

Sandra Harding and David Milton (QWSG)

An Open Invitation

A short forum on shorebird-related subjects will be held at the Port of Brisbane Visitor Centre on Sunday 16th October 2005 from 9:30am-12:30pm (Admission free).

The forum coincides with a visit by members of the Wild Bird Society of Japan as part of the wetlands affiliation agreement exchange between Brisbane and Narashino Cities.

Presentation topics and speakers are:

Blue and Green Tides in Tokyo Bay – Hit Akutsu WBSJ

Reclamation and Shorebird Conservation at Port of Brisbane – Wayne Young Port of Brisbane Corporation

Shorebird Monitoring in Moreton Bay – Michele Burford QWSG

Children's Shorebird Education Update – Ivell Whyte QWSG

This is an ideal opportunity to learn more about shorebird conservation and to meet like-minded overseas visitors. It's also a chance to experience the visitor centre and lake and check out the artificial high tide roost and birdhides constructed by the Port of Brisbane Corporation.

Morning tea will be supplied by the Port. There's limited seating and we'll need attendee numbers in advance, so if you're interested, please advise Ivell Whyte on (07) 38020757 or by email at directms@powerup.com.au.

Waders on Moreton Island - National Winter Count

21-22 July 2005

A successful count was undertaken at the prime wader roosts on the southern end of Moreton Island. This was undertaken on Friday 22 July 2005 by Queensland Wader Study Group volunteers. An overnight stay was arranged for this survey as transport by Marine Parks craft was not available on the day and there was difficulty arranging other transport due to tide times. The early intention to camp was abandoned because of cold and possible rain. We accepted Peter Driscoll's offer of overnight accommodation at "Curlew Quarters" Koorlingal. There were some heavy showers during the two day period, mainly at night. A strong wind on Friday made conditions difficult for counting birds. High Tide at the Brisbane Bar on Friday 22, 2005 was 1.81m at 10:03h.

National Parks supplied 4x4 vehicles with rangers as drivers for the group. Without this assistance this survey would not have been possible.

Disturbance of waders has been difficult to record as time was not available to monitor people activity around the roost sites. One incidence of disturbance was recorded at Mirapool Beach. This stretch of beach is narrow and there is frequent disturbance by vehicles.

Campbells Point – Days Gutter

A sandbank adjacent to the south-west of the island is being used as an intermediate roost though birds remain if not pushed off by a higher tide. It is at present unclear where they go when forced off, though Reeders Point and Mirapool are the most likely destinations. This sandbank held the greatest number of waders on this current survey including 106 Eastern Curlew and 68 Pied Oystercatchers. Also seen were Red-necked Stints, Curlew Sandpipers and 560 Pied Cormorants.

Reeders Point

Double-banded Plover, Red-necked Stint and Red-capped Plover were counted, concentrated mainly on the tidal flat within the dunes among debris at high tide mark.

A flock of about 30 egrets (not counted) were seen roosting among mangroves near oyster farming trays on the foreshore between Reeders and Campbells Points.

Mirapool Lagoon

The lagoon contained more water than on the previous survey with water covering the entire area. Recent vegetation growth now covers areas previously utilized by roosting Eastern Curlew. 68 Black winged Stilt and 11 Red-necked Avocet were counted with cormorants, teal and ducks.

Mirapool Beach

Small waders, including 27 Red-necked Stints, 33 Double-banded Plover, 28 Red-capped Plover and 7 Ruddy Turnstone were roosting on the beach and dunes in front of the lagoon.

A large number of vehicles use this beach resulting in a high incidence of disturbance to birds. Monitoring of vehicle numbers and bird behaviour during times of peak traffic is needed.

Heath Island

This large tidal flat on the northern coast was visited on Thursday 21/7/05. A high tide roost has not been located in this area and a visit at low tide found few birds. This area should be surveyed in summer when it is most likely to be used by migratory waders. As this area is a popular beach for fishing, disturbance could be an issue during wader migration. Eastern Curlew, Red-capped Plover, Pied Oystercatchers, Beach and Bush Thick-knees were seen plus a pair of Black-necked Storks (Jabiru), ducks and herons.

The Main Beach

Pairs of Pied Oystercatchers were seen at intervals along the main beach at the water's edge. Two of these birds had a metal ring on left tarsus with a white band on right tarsus.

Participants:-

Queensland Wader Study Group members -
Joyce Harding
Ivell Whyte
Dawn Beck
Floss Wainwright

Ken Cowell
Kath Shurcliff
Dave Houghton
National Park Rangers – Lisa Ford, Chrissy
Bonello, Katya Thompson

Report by Queensland Wader Study Group

The Australasian Wader Studies Group Survey in China

The Australasian Wader Studies Group, in conjunction with Wetlands International – China, has just completed the ninth year of training, surveying and shorebird counting activities in the Chinese part of the Yellow Sea during northward migration. This year we surveyed new areas in southern Jiangsu and Liaoning Provinces and conducted training and counting activities at Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve.

The activities were carried out as part of the Asia-Pacific Shorebird Action Plan funded by the Australian Department of Environment and Heritage. Brief count results and observations follow:

S JIANGSU (between 32.6930N/120.8953E & 31.7028N/121.9086E) – 20 to 26 April 2005.

170 km of coastline between the Yangtze estuary and Yancheng National Nature Reserve: 64,368 shorebirds of 33 species. Most common species counted were Dunlin (20,749), Bar-tailed Godwit (13,337), Grey Plover (7,001), Red-necked Stint (3,458), Whimbrel (1,829), Great Knot (1,800), Terek Sandpiper (794) and Eastern Curlew (607). One Spoon-billed sandpiper was seen.

LIAONING (between 40.7742N/121.9560E & 40.5102N/122.3258E; and 39.4415N/121.3284E & 39.7862N/123.5218E) – 29 April to 5 May, 7 and 11 May 2005.

34 km of coastline and a large saltworks in NE Liaodongwan; 200 km of coastline between Dalian and Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve and extensive saltworks north of Dalian: 87,370 shorebirds of 31 species. Most common species counted were Great Knot (22,761), Dunlin (21,511), Bar-tailed Godwit (13,364), Whimbrel (3,291), Eurasian Curlew (3,654), Grey Plover (1,556), Eastern Curlew (1,444) and Marsh Sandpiper (1,341). One Spoon-billed sandpiper was seen.

YALU JIANG NNR (between 39.7862N/123.5218E & 39.8283N/124.1194E) – 20 to 25 April 2004.

Count of 60% of the Nature Reserve: 119,008 shorebirds of 29 species. Most common species counted were Bar-tailed Godwit (49,100), Dunlin (22,913), Great Knot (20,270), Grey Plover (6,010), Eastern Curlew (955) and Eurasian Curlew (645). A flock of 12 Spotted Greenshank were seen.

BEIPU SALTWORKS (N Bohaiwan) (39.1420N/118.2873E) – 14 May 2005.

Partial count of the Saltworks: 6,979 shorebirds of 12 species. Most common species were Curlew Sandpiper (6,099) and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (735).

OBSERVATIONS

The counts of new areas confirm the extensive nature of important shorebird habitat around the shores of the Yellow Sea – both in intertidal areas and in saltworks.

The intertidal areas to the west of Yalu Jiang NNR support very large numbers of shorebirds, which have a similar species composition to that in the Reserve.

The large numbers counted north of the Yangtze estuary were surprising, given the relatively few shorebirds present to the south of the estuary earlier in April.

The salt works north of Dalian supported few shorebirds, given their size. Those in NE Liaodongwan and N Bohaiwan confirmed the importance of this kind of habitat for Marsh Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Red-necked Stint.

The flock of 12 Spotted Greenshank seen at Yalu Jiang NNR was highly significant, given the estimated population size of 250-1000 individuals. The northern Yellow Sea appears to be an important northward migration staging region for this species as 3 individuals were seen at Yalu Jiang in 2000. Birds were also seen at the Yellow River NNR in 1997 and 1998.

A total of 80 leg-flagged shorebirds (59 Bar-tailed Godwit, 9 Great Knot, 2 Eastern Curlew, 2 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, 3 Red-necked Stint, 1 Sanderling, 1 Red Knot, 1 Curlew sandpiper, 1 Whimbrel and 1 Terek Sandpiper) were encountered during the surveys, including six individually marked Bar-tailed Godwits from New Zealand.

Summaries of the counts are available in Excel files (four files totaling 300 kB). Please let me know if you would like to have copies.

Mark Barter: markbarter@optusnet.com.au

East Asian - Australasian Flyway Colour Flag / Metal Band combinations*

Country	USA	RUSSIA	RUSSIA	RUSSIA	RUSSIA
Area	Alaska	Northern Chukotka	Southern Chukotka	Kamchatka	Sakhalin Island
Upper leg	Blue	Pale Blue	Pale Green	Yellow	Yellow
Lower Leg	Green	nothing	nothing	Black	White
Country	JAPAN	JAPAN	JAPAN	JAPAN	JAPAN
Area	Northern Japan	Northern Japan	Central Japan	Central Japan	Southern Japan
Area	Lake Komuke, Hokkaido	Shunkunitai, Hokkaido	Obitsu	Yatsu Tidal Flats	Kyushu
Upper leg	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue / diagonal cut	Blue
Lower Leg	Blue	nothing	White	White / diagonal cut	Orange
Country	KOREA	CHINA	CHINA	CHINA	CHINA
Area	Northern	Yellow Sea	Chongming Dao	Taiwan	Hong Kong
Upper leg	White	Green	White	White	White
Lower Leg	Orange	Orange	Black	Blue	Yellow
Country	SINGAPORE	PHILIPPINES	AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA
Area	Singapore	North Philippines	SW WA	NWA	QLD
Upper leg	Green	Black	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Lower Leg	White	Blue	Orange	nothing	nothing
Country	AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND
Area	NSW	Victoria	SA	North Island	South Island
Upper leg	Orange	Orange	Orange	White	White
Lower Leg	Green	nothing	Yellow	nothing	Green

NOTE: Some flags are now attached with a combination of up to 3 letters and numbers etched on each flag. If you are close enough to read these please report them as well as these can often identify the individual bird.

In Komuke and in southern Japan, the flags are on the right leg in stead of left leg according to the scheme.

If you do not have the contact details to report a flag sighting direct to the flagging country/flagger please send sightings to mintons@ozemail.com.au. This will ensure that sightings will be reported to the original flagger promptly, and that no valuable records are lost. All flag observations will be acknowledged with a formal flag-sighting report. QWSG counters please send your sightings to Linda Cross, 40 Thompson Road, Bellmere, Qld. 4510

* In most cases, the colour flag(s) is placed on the right leg, and the metal band on the left leg. However the leg on which the flag(s) are located is not critical in determining the flagging origin of the bird.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new member who have joined recently :

Miss Chrissy BONELLO
Ms Dorothy PASHNIAK

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.

Educating Them Young

The Education Sub-committee of QWSG (Sheryl Keates, David Edwards, Andrew Geering and Ivell Whyte) has a strategy of “Educating Them Young”. We’ve found, through our school education programmes, that children can become very interested in shorebirds. These kids often get their parents involved simply through their enthusiasm.

There are so many schools and so few of us. For that reason, we decided to work smarter instead of harder. Teachers welcome quality education material that meets education standards. They also like this material to be “user-friendly” – something that helps them to understand the subject that they’ll be teaching.

Requests for education material on waders suitable for children have come from organisations such as Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Brisbane City Council Natural Areas. Consequently, the committee decided to develop a Shorebird Education Kit for children that could be used by both environmental groups and schools.

The basis of this kit was developed around what we were already doing during school visits. Presenter’s notes for the PowerPoint presentations are included in a handbook along with wader prop patterns and a script for a play on disturbance to waders by Anne O’Dea of QPWS. The handbook also includes field trip suggestions and further activities supplied by retired school teachers and QWSG members Don and Lesley Bradley.

Many thanks to these and other members of the Wader Study Group, including Birds Queensland president Peter Crow, for providing input and assistance with the content. Ivell Whyte and Raelee Carter put in the hard yards with text, illustrations and graphic design. Editing was by David Edwards prior to going to print.

Our project was sponsored by the Natural Heritage Trust through the Australian Government Envirofund. To date, the response to the kit has been overwhelming. Requests have come from all over Queensland as well as interstate.

The kit travelled to Expo in Japan with Mary-Ann Pattison, Principal of Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre. The bird props were painted and the play performed at the Education Expo by both Japanese students and students from Cairns High.

Mary-Ann has been instrumental in obtaining NRMSEQ funding for a supply teacher to take our kit into SE Qld schools in the vicinity of disturbed wader areas. Now that’s working smarter!

The kit is proving a worthwhile resource for those dedicated to the protection of our shorebirds.

Colour marked ringed plovers coming your way.

In the summers of 2004 and 2005, a colour-ringing study on the population biology of ringed plovers *Charadrius hiaticula* was initiated in Iceland. The Icelandic population has been estimated as ca. 1/3 of the world population. The study aims at first to identify key factors regulating reproductive output and distribution. Of preliminary results, the study has shown conflicts with recreational activity on beaches in S-Iceland and breeding densities up to 90 pairs/100ha in N-Iceland.

The non-breeding distribution of the Icelandic population is poorly known and we hope that this colour-ringing initiative can shed some light on the migration routes and wintering grounds of the Icelandic breeding birds. So far, almost a 1000 plovers have been ringed. We hope that our fellow waderologists will keep their eyes open and spread the word. Any sightings will be most appreciated and full feedback will be swiftly provided. The plovers are individually marked with one colour ring on each tarsus, one colour ring on either tibia and a metal ring on opposite tibia.

Best wishes,

Böðvar Þórisson (bodvar@nave.is, boddiholly@hotmail.com), Vigfús Eyjólfsson (vigfusey@isl.is),

Tómas G. Gunnarsson (limosa@simnet.is)

Editor’s note: Not directly relevant to Australia, but interesting to see what projects other areas are undertaking.

WADER WATCH Linda and Phil Cross, Joyce Harding

Leg Flag Banding Legend (colour = where banded)

- Green = 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 this newsletter.

Green leg flag sightings

1 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – David Milton & Sandra Harding – 07.05.05

1 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Colin Reid – 15.07.05

Interstate & overseas Green leg flag sightings

The numerous green leg flag sightings from overseas date back to 2002, which have only recently been reported to AWSG and passed onto QWSG for entry onto our database. Although they are a couple of years old we believe they are of particular interest to us as the group has not done any leg flagging for about five or six years now, and we are interested in seeing just how many of our previous green flagged waders are still out there in the flyway.

1 Great Knot – Wajiro Tidal Flat, Fukuoka, Kyushu, Japan – Tadakazu Hiroi – 14.04.02

1 Great Knot – Gan-No-Su, Higashi-Ku, Fukuoka-Shi, Japan – Naoki Shigematsu – 14.04.02

1 Great Knot – Otome Beach, Usa-shi, Ooita, Japan – Hiroshi Tanaka – 14.04.02

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Otome Beach, Usa-shi, Ooita, Japan – Hiroshi Tanaka – 14.04.02

1 Whimbrel – Otome Beach, Usa-shi, Ooita, Japan – Hiroshi Tanaka – 14.04.02

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Sawa River, Nishiohi, Ooi-machi, Kanagawa, Japan – Kazuo Nishi – 07.05.02

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Sawa River, Nishiohi, Ooi-machi, Kanagawa, Japan – Kazuo Nishi – 09.05.02

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Yatsu Tidal Flat, Japan – Kiroyuki Suzuki – 23.07.02

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Yatsu Tidal Flat, Japan – Yuki Okano – 07.08.02

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Kamida River mouth, Toyohashi, Aichi, Japan – Hideo Itami – 25.08.02

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Yatsu Tidal Flat, Japan – (unknown observer) – 22.08.03

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Shiokawa Estuary, Tahara, Aichi, Japan – Kenji Ito – 30.08.03

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Yatsu Tidal Flat, Japan – Hideo Hayashi – 18.07.04

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Yatsu Tidal Flat, Japan – Yoshito Kishi – 10.08.04

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Clifton Beach, Whitford, Auckland, New Zealand – Tony Habraken & K. Bond – 07.02.05

1 Red Knot – Clark's Bay, Manukau Harbour, South Auckland, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 27.02.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Clifton Beach, Whitford, Auckland, New Zealand – Tony Habraken & K. Bond – 09.03.05

3 Red Knot – Karaka, Manukau Harbour, South Auckland, New Zealand – D. Lawrie, I. Southey & T. Habraken – 12.03.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Pakawau, Golden Bay, South Island, New Zealand – Rob Schuckard – 18.03.05

1 Red Knot – Karaka, Manukau Harbour, South Auckland, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 02.04.05

1 Great Knot – Han-Bou, ChangHwa County, Taiwan, China – Taiwan Wader Study Group – 06.04.05

1 Red Knot – Han-Bou, ChangHwa County, Taiwan, China – Taiwan Wader Study Group – 06.04.05

1 Great Knot – Han-Bou, ChangHwa County, Taiwan, China – Taiwan Wader Study Group – 08.04.05

1 Great Knot – Han-Bou, ChangHwa County, Taiwan, China – Taiwan Wader Study Group – 11.04.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Mokpo City in south west Korea, Republic of Korea (South Korea) – Park Suk-kyoo – 24.04.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Mokpo City in south west Korea, Republic of Korea (South Korea) – Park Suk-kyoo – 26.04.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Ersari, near Hongsung, Repluic of Korea (South Korea) – Kwak Ho-kyong – 01.05.05

1 Curlew Sandpiper – HsinHsing, ChangHwa County, Taiwan, China – Chung-Yu Chiang – 04.05.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Ersari, near Hongsung, Repluic of Korea (South Korea) – Kim Hyun-tae – 04.05.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve, People's Republic of China – Wang Tao & Yuan Xiao – 11.05.05

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve, People's Republic of China – Wang Tao – 12.05.05

Orange leg flag sightings

No sightings reported

Blue (Japanese) leg flag sightings

Errata – The Grey-tailed Tattler with blue leg flag on upper left leg sighted at Mathieson Homestead by Rob Kernot & Bob Gleeson on 29.01.05 listed in issue 51 was incorrect species. The correct species for this sighting was a Great Knot.

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – David Milton et al – 21.08.05

Other wader leg flag sightings

1 Red-necked Stint – with white flag upper left leg and orange flag lower left leg – Fisherman Island – David Edwards, Ken Cowell & Floss Wainwright – 05.06.05 (this colour combination is used by Korea)

Other leg flag sightings and banded birds

1 Caspian Tern – with orange flag lower right leg - Buckley's Hole (Sandbar), Bribie Island – Dez Wells – 07.05.05

1 Caspian Tern – with orange flag lower right leg and Metal band lower left leg – Buckley's Hole (sandbar), Bribie Island – Dez Wells – 07.05.05

2 Caspian Tern – with orange flag lower right leg and metal band on lower left leg – Dave Houghton & Kath Shurcliff – 28.05.05

3 Caspian Tern – with metal band on lower left leg (two birds) and metal band on lower right leg (one bird) – Dave Houghton & Kath Shurcliff – 28.05.05

1 Caspian Tern – with orange flag lower right leg – Toorbul – Esther Townsend – 24.07.05

1 Caspian Tern – with orange flag lower right leg and metal band on lower left leg – Toorbul – Dez & Jezz Wells – 24.07.05

1 Caspian Tern – with metal band on lower left leg – Toorbul – Dez & Jezz Wells – 24.07.05

1 Caspian Tern – with orange flag lower right leg and metal band lower left leg – Buckley's Hole (sandbar), Bribie Island – Dez & Jezz Wells – 24.07.05

1 Caspian Tern – with orange flag on lower right leg and metal band lower left leg – Toorbul – Jill Dening – 27.07.05

1 Crested Tern – with metal band lower right leg – Buckley's Hole (sandbar), Bribie Island – Dez & Jezz Wells – 24.07.05

Interesting sightings

Please note these sightings are not authenticated records.

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

229 Pacific Golden Plover – Luggage Point – Ivell & Jim Whyte – 18.03.05

381 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Luggage Point – Ivell & Jim Whyte – 18.03.05

711 Red-necked Stint – Luggage Point – Ivell & Jim Whyte – 18.03.05

249 Curlew Sandpiper – Luggage Point – Ivell & Jim Whyte – 18.03.05

3 Sanderling – Sandy Cape, Fraser Island – Donald & Lesley Bradley – 01.04.05

130 Pied Oystercatcher – Manly Boat Harbour – Sandra Harding & David Milton – 07.05.05

1 Wandering Tattler – Snapper Rocks, Coolangatta – Ian Watson – 25.04.05

8 Bush-stone Curlew – Pioneer River, Mackay – Les Thyer – 20.05.05

103 Red-capped Plover – Kinka Beach Sandbar, Yeppoon – Alf Keller & Barry Ellis – 24.07.05

187 Whimbrel – Toorbul – Jill Dening – 19.08.05

Not waders but of interest anyway

402+ Australian White Ibis – Trutes Wetlands, Tweed Heads – Ian Watson – 09.02.05

1 Black-necked Stork – Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon – Robert Black & Rob MacFarlane – 26.02.05

4 Brolga (2 adults & 2 juveniles) – Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon – John Thomson & Rob MacFarlane – 13.03.05

4170 Common Tern – Noosa River Sandbanks – Jill Dening, Barb Dickson & Jill Chamberlain – 22.03.05

300 Little Tern – Noosa River Sandbanks – Jill Dening, Barb Dickson & Jill Chamberlain – 22.03.05

130 White-winged Black Tern – Noosa River Sandbanks – Jill Dening, Barb Dickson & Jill Chamberlain – 22.03.05

4400 Common Tern – Maroochy River Goat Island – Barb Dickson, Darcelle Hegarty & Nikki Moore – 07.04.05

450 Little Tern – Maroochy River Goat Island – Barb Dickson, Darcelle Hegarty & Nikki Moore – 07.04.05

- 270 White-winged Black Tern – Maroochy River Goat Island – Barb Dickson, Darcelle Hegarty & Nikki Moore – 07.04.05
- 40 Wandering Whistling Duck – Kingscliff Sewerage Plant – Ian Watson & Matthew Angus – 02.05.05
- 340 Silver Gull – Lillie Island, Tweed Heads – Matthew Angus – 06.05.05
- c1000 Little Black Cormorant – Manly Boat Harbour (flying over) – David Milton & Sandra Harding – 07.05.05
- 174 Chestnut Teal – Kedron Brook Wetlands – Dez Wells – 07.05.05
- 237 Chestnut Teal – Luggage Point – Ivell & Jim Whyte – 08.05.05
- 1 Pink-eared Duck – Garnett's Lagoons – John Knight, Don & Rhonda Jenning – 24.05.05
- 300 Straw-necked Ibis – Garnett's Lagoons, Hervey Bay – John Knight – 05.06.05
- 1 Black-tailed Native Hen – Garnett's Lagoons, Hervey Bay – John Knight – 05.06.05
- 24 Australasian Shoveler – Garnett's Lagoons, Hervey Bay – John Knight – 05.06.05 (increased to 35 birds on 18.06.05)
- 2 Australian Crake – Garnett's Lagoons, Hervey Bay – John Knight – 18.06.05
- 1 Black-necked Stork (female) – Ukerebagh Passage, Tweed Heads – Marion Williams & Laurel Allsopp - 18.06.05
- 1 Great Crested Grebe – Kingscliff Sewerage Plant, Tweed Heads – Ian Watson & Eddie Klieber – 14.07.05
- 560 Pied Cormorant – Day's Gutter, Moreton Island – QWSG count – 22.07.05
- 118 Black Swan – Toorbul – Esther Townsend – 24.07.05
- 20+ Magpie Goose – Trutes Wetlands – Ian Watson – 27.07.05

Count Programme by Linda Cross

This is a shorter than normal article due to my work commitments in paid employment. My sincere apologies to anybody who has been trying to contact me by email or telephone during that last month or so, and on through to the end of October early November.

Double-banded Plovers have probably left our shores by the time you receive this newsletter, but there were some good numbers recorded at a few sites, which are listed below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 33 at Mirrapool Beach, Moreton Island on 22.07.05 | 23 at Manly Boat Harbour on 24.07.05 |
| 52 at Reeders Pt, Moreton Island on 22.07.05 | 105 at Caboolture River Mouth on 24.07.05 |
| 16 at Sandbank No 2, Caloundra on 24.07.05 | 19 at Maroochy River on 22.07.05 |
| 20 at Kakadu Beach, Bribie Island on 14.08.05 | |

During the drier months through winter the resident waders sometimes move toward the coast from inland areas increasing the numbers we usually see. I have listed some of them extracted from the count sheets.

Red-kneed Dotterel

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 7 at Kedron Brook Wetlands on 07.05.05 | 44 at Luggage Point on 08.05.05 |
| 16 at Garnett's Lagoons on 18.06.05 | |

Black-fronted Dotterel

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 4 at Kedron Brook Wetlands on 07.05.05 | 16 at Deception Bay on 24.07.05 |
|--|---------------------------------|

Red-necked Avocet

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 54 at Garnett's Lagoons on 05.06.05 | 104 at Trutes Wetlands on 19.06.05 |
| 68 at Mirrapool on 22.07.05 | 301 at Deception Bay on 21.08.05 |

Black-winged Stilt

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 368 at Luggage Point on 08.05.05 | 483 at Toorbul on 24.07.05 |
| 130 at Kedron Brook Wetlands on 24.07.05 | 142 at Lytton on 24.07.05 |
| 250 at Trutes Bay, Tweed Heads on 27.07.05 | 101 at Deception Bay on 24.07.05 |

Also listed are sightings of those less common resident waders that we all like to report.

Beach Stone-curlew

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 at Maroochy River on 07.04.05 | 2 at Pioneer River, Mackay on 20.05.05 |
| 3 at Reeders Point, Moreton Island on 22.07.05 | 1 at Mathieson Homestead on 23.07.05 |

Sooty Oystercatcher

1 at Pioneer River, Mackay on 20.05.05

1 at Mathieson Homestead on 13.06.05

Breeding records3 Masked Lapwing chicks at Kakadu Beach Bribie Island on 21.08.05Red-capped Plovers breeding at Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon on 26.02.05

We are still looking for counters who would like to join the count programme to have a site of their own or as a standby counter. Empire Point, Donnybrook, Oyster Point, Nandeebie Park and other sites are currently available. Please contact me direct if you are interested.

Happy counting.
Linda Cross.

WADER ID DAYS for 2005**Saturday 10th September at Toorbul**

High tide at 13:37 hours (plus 40 mins later for Toorbul). Meeting time will be at Noon.

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.

Remember to bring water and food as it is the middle of the day. 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.

Although this date might be early in the season this is a good time to see the Red Knot as they move through South East Queensland for Victoria and New Zealand. We hope to see some of the other birds in their changing plumage.

Please contact either Phil & Linda Cross 07 5495 2758 or David Edwards 07 3262 2017 if you have any question

Saturday 8th October 2005 at Lytton roost

High 2.11m at 12:29. Meeting time will be 11:00. Bring water and maybe bring lunch or something to eat, its always a good idea to have a hat and sun-screen. 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. Or through Wynnum to Wynnum North road and hence to the car park.
UBD 143 F11.

Contact David Edwards 07 3262 2017

Sunday 6th November 2005 at Area 5, the Port of Brisbane (Subject to Confirmation)

High tide of 2.28 at 12:20. This is our first visit to the new bird hide at the Port of Brisbane. This great development has been established by the Port of Brisbane, a great place to see Waders and waterbirds. Meeting time will be at 11:00.

To find the bird hide make your way to the port road on to Fisherman's Island. At the roundabout take the first exit sign posted to the Visitors Centre, open on Sundays. This leads you across an overpass, continue on this road for about 2km. You will see a car park area on the right where we will meet to enter the site. This area is kept locked, we will have a key for the day. Bring water and maybe bring something to eat, its always a good idea to have a hat and sun-screen

Please contact either David Edwards 07 3262 2017 or Phil & Linda Cross 07 5495 2758 to confirm this date, or if you have any question

Saturday 3rd December 2005 at Kakadu Beach roost Bribie Island **Combining with the QWSG AGM for 2005**

High Tide at Brisbane bar is 12:48 (40 mins later for Bribie). It will be a large high tide 2.48m, which will push quite a number of birds onto the roost, including birds that normally use the Toorbul roosts. Meeting time will be 09:00 onwards.

Take the Bruce Highway north from Brisbane to the Bribie Island exit. Turn off here and head east over the highway overpass. Continue on this road to Bribie Island. After crossing the bridge continue on until reaching the second roundabout, turn left into Sunderland Drive and follow this road to Banksia Beach. At the T-junction at the end of Sunderland Drive turn left onto Solander Esplanade. The car park near the bird hide is on the right, just before a small roundabout. If the car park is full you can use the parking bays along the Esplanade. (Gregory's Map 52 J5)

Remember to bring a chair, water and food for lunch. It would also be a good idea to have a hat, sunscreen and insect repellent. Most importantly bring your binoculars or telescope.

Please contact either Phil & Linda Cross (07) 5495 2758 or David Edwards (07) 3262 2017 if you have any questions.

AGM of the QWSG

When Sunday 3rd December 2005.

Time 11:45am for a prompt start

Where Kakadu Beach roost Bribie Island

Take the Bruce Highway north from Brisbane to the Bribie Island exit. Turn off here and head east over the highway overpass. Continue on this road to Bribie Island. After crossing the bridge continue on until reaching the second roundabout, turn left into Sunderland Drive and follow this road to Banksia Beach. At the T-junction at the end of Sunderland Drive turn left onto Solander Esplanade. The car park near the bird hide is on the right, just before a small roundabout. If the car park is full you can use the parking bays along the Esplanade. (Gregory's Map 52 J5)

Please ring Editor on 07 3262 2017 if you need any further directions

The AGM will follow the ID day, so come and meet the Committee after enjoying the waders that call Bribie home. We are always looking for new committee members to help us help the Waders. You will not be asked to do too much, at the start. Please consider joining the committee we welcome all. If you want more information contact any committee member or David Milton the QWSG Chairperson, (07) 3390 2179.

You will find a nomination form at the base of page 17.

Committee Meeting

There is usually a committee meeting of the QWSG every two months, because arrangements for these meetings are made on an *ad hoc* basis after each meeting it is impossible to announce the times of these meetings in Queensland Wader.

We are able to let you know that the next meeting will be on Thursday 15th of September at 7:00pm. It will be held at the Carindale Library. This can be found in the Carindale Shopping Centre. There are signs to follow, it is within the buildings of the centre, plus plenty of parking.

For further information you can contact the QWSG Chairperson, David Milton, on (07) 3390 2179.

Also use this number to check for the next meeting which should be some time in November.

A collection of bits & pieces about wader happenings

It is a while since last I sent these notes. I have just been slack – not your committee.

Over the last months members of the Group have attended various meetings and workshops with the aim of furthering the cause of wader and habitat protection.

- The finalisation of the Shorebird Conservation Project was marked with a forum in Melbourne in May where I gave a report on the Great Sandy Strait Mapping Project. The GSS workshops to explain the shorebird mapping are still to come.
- Committee members participated in workshops and discussions with the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Heritage on the development of the “Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds.” These have been held both in Melbourne and Brisbane.
- A two week excursion to the Gulf country with WWF in May involved QWSG committee members. Wetland protection was discussed with property owners and a shorebird monitoring kit was provided to them.
- The roost enhancement project at Toorbul is now under way with Caboolture Shire Council and the Pumicestone Passage Shorebird Group pushing ahead with plans and work.
- QWSG has been involved with two trips to Moreton Island with National Parks officers to monitor and count the waders on the island. The first was in February and the most recent in July for the winter count. These trips have been held during the working week which makes it difficult for many volunteers to become involved.
- Counts at the Port of Brisbane are being continued this year. With the outer bund walls being completed and the filling of the resulting ponds, wader habitat will be available for some years to come. The roost under construction at the port will be opened to the public shortly. A key will be necessary to enter the roost area. This will be available at the port office.
- The Shorebird Education Kit has been completed and is proving popular wherever it is seen. Requests for copies have been received from far and wide.
- Efforts are being made to analyse the wader count data that has been collected over the years. This is a job that will require a lot of time and expertise in the near future. There are a few sites that have recently lost their regular counter so if you would like to help please contact Linda, our count co-ordinator for details.
- QWSG committee has been given copies of several back issues of the Aust Wader Studies Group (AWSG) bulletin *Stilt*. These are available on request. Contact Sandra Harding (pitta@gil.com.au)

Joyce Harding

Water quality values and objectives in Queensland

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is undertaking a process to establish environmental values and water quality objectives for waters in the following areas:

1. Moreton Bay/south-east Queensland;
2. Mary River Basin/Great Sandy Region;
3. Douglas Shire waters.
- 4.

Measurement of water quality involves:

- Guidelines – for example, to sustain a healthy waterway ecosystem in an estuary of south-east Queensland, concentrations of nitrogen should remain below 300 micrograms per litre (i.e.0.3mg/L)(draft Queensland Water Quality Guidelines, 2004).
- Water quality objectives – For example, biological water quality objectives (depending on information availability) could include:
 1. maintenance of seagrass depth range to at least 5 metres;
 2. diversity of benthic organisms to be greater than 0.6 units;
 3. no more than one major algal bloom to occur within five years.

- Environmental values – values and uses specific to each waterway: that provide targets for water quality management; assist with decision making for future development and provide the opportunity for integrating all water planning and management activities (on a catchment basis).

For more information refer to the EPA web site at:

http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/environmental_management/water/environmental_values_water_regulatory_impact_statement/

Joyce Harding

Opinions and biases expressed are not necessarily those of other members of the QWSG committee or the group as a whole.

North-west Australia Wader & Tern Expedition Nov/Dec 2005 12th November to 3rd December 2005

Background

This is the second AWSG Wader and Tern Expedition to north-west Australia (NWA) to take place in 2005.

Over the years since the first expedition in 1981, the timing of visits has varied considerably, so that now we have good data in all months of the year (although catch samples in June are still smaller than ideal).

Nowadays our primary objective is to obtain a measure of the breeding success of as many species as possible in the preceding arctic summer. Because all the adult and juvenile birds relating to populations which spend the non-breeding season in NWA are only all present in the period between early Nov. and mid-March, most expeditions in the recent past and in the foreseeable future will be scheduled within this period. The last two expeditions have been in the January-early March part of the period, partly because there was still a need for biometric and moult data at that time of year. Now that these needs have been fulfilled, it is possible to revert to a Nov.-early Dec. expedition which is preferable because of potentially more stable weather and also because it interferes less with the parallel fieldwork program of the VWSG in south-east Australia. The consequence of this is that in one year there has to be two expeditions, and 2005 is that year. The timing of the expedition was also constrained by the AWSG biennial wader conference which is being held between the 11th and 15th of December 2005, in New Zealand.

For those who have not visited NWA before, it will be of interest that it is one of the top five regions of the world for numbers of waders in the non-breeding season. Roebuck Bay at Broome holds up to 150,000 waders, whilst the 220km long 80-Mile Beach has a typical peak population of around 500,000 waders. The variety of species is huge, with 50 on the Broome Bird Observatory (BBO) list – equivalent to nearly a quarter of the 214 species world wide.

This document is intended to provide relevant information to prospective participants in NWA Nov/Dec 2005 which will take place from the **12th November to 3rd December**. We aim to have a team of around 22 people throughout this 3-week period. This is so that we can adequately cope with wader and tern catches in the, sometimes hot, conditions which occur in NWA. It would be particularly valuable if much of the team is composed of people who have taken part in expeditions previously. You are strongly encouraged to participate. Please make contact with one of the expedition leaders as soon as possible to register your interest. It is hoped to go firm on the final team by the end of July. Contact details are given at the front.

Objectives:

The fieldwork program will, as usual, principally consist of regular banding and appropriate counting of waders and terns at two locations (Broome and 80-Mile Beach).

The specific objectives of this Expedition are:

1. Banding.
 - a. To obtain an estimate of the relative breeding success in the 2005 Arctic breeding season of all the main species of migratory waders. This is achieved by measuring the proportion of juveniles in catches.
 - b. To catch additional samples of species which are less frequently caught in NW Australia, e.g. Black-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Grey Plover, Greenshank, Oriental Plover, Eastern Curlew, Little Curlew, and

possibly Oriental Pratincole (though it may be too early for this species). Also Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone and both Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers.

2. Engraved Flags.

- a. To continue the program of putting individually lettered/numbered Yellow leg flags on all the main medium/large migratory wader species. This is to facilitate the collection and calculation of survival rate data in the future.
- b. To do as much “scanning” of roosting and feeding waders as is possible in the time available, in order to record the details of birds which have previously been marked with engraved leg flags. The team’s efforts in this area will supplement the intensive scanning being carried out by PhD student Alice Ewing and by other locally-based observers including Chris Hassell, Adrian Boyle and members of the BBO staff.

3. Counting

- a. The main program of counting waders at Roebuck Bay, Broome and 80-Mile Beach is now carried out by a small team of “semi-professionals” under the “Monitoring Yellow Sea Migrants in Australia (MYSMA)” project.

One of the summer counts will coincide with the first few days of the expedition, and members of the team will assist where required.

- b. Expedition members will also carry out wader counts at all other locations visited throughout the expedition.

Itinerary:

A proposed itinerary for the 3-week period of fieldwork is attached. This can be summarised as:

Broome/Roebuck Bay	10 days
80 Mile Beach/Anna Plains	8 days
Travel between locations	2 days

Costs

Participants will be responsible for the costs of travelling to join or leave the expedition at Broome or 80-Mile Beach.

When in N.W. Australia costs for participants will be:-

- a) a charge of **\$25 per day** to cover the cost of food, gas, laundry, other consumable items (electrical fuses, batteries etc.) and other equipment costs/ overheads.
- b) in addition to the daily charge a charge of **\$190 per week**. for local transport costs (hire of 4WD and other vehicles).
- c) camping or accommodation costs at the Broome Bird Observatory (BBO) are payable directly to the BBO. Costs per person per night, after the 10% discount for AWSG expedition members, are \$27 for air-conditioned units / chalet, \$12 for powered camping and \$10 for unpowered camping. **Accommodation bookings should be made NOW directly with the BBO; a deposit may be required.** There are no camping fees at 80-Mile Beach and we hope to be able to use one of the buildings at the Anna Plains station as our base.

The above charges (a) and (b) are collected periodically by the expedition “treasurer”. Cash or cheques are equally acceptable (no credit cards). BBO accepts credit cards for charges under item (c) above. All participants, other than local residents, will be expected to be full members of the team, residing at the one location. “Self catering” is not permitted, so please advise the expedition leaders **in advance** of any food allergies or important dietary preferences. A vegetarian diet can be accommodated, but as some food is ordered in advance, it is **essential** that any special requirements are known early.

Contacting expedition members

During the expedition participants can best be contacted through BBO. The expedition will be based there when in Broome and will be in almost daily contact when at 80-Mile Beach. Postal Address:

Broome Bird Observatory, PO Box 1313, Broome, W.A. 6725. Australia.

PHONE: 0891 935 600 FAX: 0891 923 364

e-mail bbo@birdsaustralia.com.au

The Observatory Warden is currently **Ricki Coughlan** and there are also assistant wardens based at the Observatory. Expedition members can make phone calls out from the BBO (reimbursing the cost to the BBO) and from a pay phone at Anna Plains station. Mobile phones often work at the BBO but reception there can be erratic.

E-mails, other than those strictly related to the Expedition, are discouraged as the BBO only has two phone lines and one computer terminal. However, e-mail cafes are available in Broome.

Conclusion

It is always a challenge undertaking expeditions in north-west Australian climatic conditions – so often hot and humid. We have been lucky in avoiding extreme weather conditions in recent years. However it is essential that we have the most experienced team available to cope with the expected conditions. That is why a team of 22 people (even up to 25) is considered the optimum.

Previous wader banding or expedition experience is desirable but not essential. What is important is the readiness to work hard (when required) and be a contributor to the team (lazy/loners won't fit in!). It is a wonderful opportunity to mix with, and learn from, others with different backgrounds and experience from elsewhere in Australia and around the world.

Would anyone receiving this "brochure" (sent to recent expedition participants and others who have already expressed interest in coming) please try and indicate, to one of the expedition leaders, their likely availability and intentions for the Nov/Dec 2005 expedition **as soon as possible**. We want to have a firm idea of the team by late July. We do not want to repeat the experience of early 2005 when a number of people backed out at the last minute leaving us slightly short on numbers. So please book a place NOW and then, in due course, advise us of specific details of travel arrangements.

We hope to see you on NWA Nov/Dec 2005.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS ?

BIRDING on the Petchora River, Russia, 1875

"We shot half a dozen Terek sandpipers the first we had yet seen. The favourite resort of these pretty birds was the grassy margin of the stream before mentioned, where they fed on the edge of the water and on the shoals of driftwood which lined it in many places. We also came across them in the marshy ground round some of the forest tarns. They were extremely tame. Like the wood-sandpiper, they would allow us to come and talk within a few yards of them, letting us take up a position where, by a little patience, a double shot could be obtained."

from *The Birds of Siberia* by Henry Seebohm
first published in 1882

Henry Seebohm was a Sheffield steel manufacturer whose successful business activities gave him the time and money to indulge in extensive travels throughout Europe and parts of Asia. He became, by collecting and observation an ornithologist of great repute in the late 1800s.

Silly Things

Murphy's Law of Tree Anatomy: There are 2 sides to a tree - the side towards you and the side the bird is on.

Murphy's First Law of Birding: The greater the time spent searching for a rarity, the greater the chances it will be sitting on your car when you return to the parking lot.

Once three Godwits were going in a straight line. The first Godwit said that there are 2 Godwits behind me. The last Godwit said that there are 2 Godwits in front of me and the middle one said that there are 2 Godwits in front of me and 2 Godwits at the back of me.

How was that possible?

Because the middle Godwit was lying !!!

QWSG CONTACTS

QUEENSLAND WADER

The Official Quarterly Publication of
Queensland Wader Study Group

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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Forward application to:

QWSG Treasurer,
PO Box 958
NIGHTCLIFF
NT 0814

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 **Nov 18th 2005**

Contributions should be addressed to:

David Edwards, The QWSG Editor, 54 Elliott Street, Clayfield, Qld 4011
or E-mail to: gouldian@ozemail.com.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.

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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, Peter Crow (07) 3398 5118; Secretary, Rod Cox (07) 3398 8775; Treasurer, Les Taylor (07) 3878 1381.

Monthly Meetings **Birds Queensland** - 7.45pm
 1st 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.

QWSG MERCHANDISE

Should you wish to purchase any of the QWSG Merchandise, items may be purchased at BQ Inc meetings held 1st Thursday of the month at the Royal Geographical Society Rooms **OR**....
 Contact Linda Cross on 07 5495 2758 or E-mail at xenus@big.net.au
 Postage is not included in the prices quoted.

Polo Neck Shirts \$30:00 Limited stock.

Books \$19:80 Shorebird Conservation in the Asia-Pacific Region.
 \$ 3:30 A Guide to Waders of Moreton Bay (through Birds Queensland)
 \$24:00 Slater Field Guide to Australian Birds

No longer in stock: Birds of Bribie Island, Pumicestone Passage and Environs
 Wildflowers of Bribie Island
 However, can be obtained from BIEPA by contacting Kathleen Catalan on 07 3408 7338

No longer in stock: A Birdwatcher's Guide to Redcliffe, Pine Rivers and Caboolture Shire.
 However, can be obtained from WPSQ Caboolture branch by contacting Brian & Eileen Rigden on 07 5496 6644

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

Cloth Badges \$8.00 We now have the new bottle green 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.

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:

Nomination forms should be received 7days before the AGM.

(Please post to: The QWSG Chairperson, 336 Prout Rd., **BURBANK**, QLD 4156



Activities 2005

High Tide – Monthly Count Programmes – 2005

QWSG Count Programme – 2005

Sun 18th Sep 2.08m at 09:32
 Sat 22nd Oct 2.16m at 12:33
 Sun 20th Nov 2.22m at 12:06
 Sun 18th Dec 2.34m at 11:08

Please send completed count sheets to Linda Cross, 40 Thompson Road, Bellmere, Qld. 4510

Port of Brisbane Count Dates – 2005

Sat 17 th Sep	1.96m at 08:46	Meet 07:00
Sun 23 rd Oct	2.04m at 13:18	Meet 11:30
Sat 19 th Nov	2.31m at 11:28	Meet 09:40
Sat 17 th Dec	2.39m at 10:31	Meet 08:40

PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR RENEWAL IS DUE!



MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

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

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

Address:.....
 Postcode:.....

Membership: \$.....
 Donation: \$.....
 Payment enclosed: \$.....

Phone: (Home) (Work)
 Fax / e-mail:

TOTAL \$.....

How did you hear about QWSG

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

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

WADER COUNTS, FIELD TRIPS, SCIENTIFIC DATA COLLECTION, SURVEYS, CLERICAL,
 OTHER (specify.....)

SIGNATURE: DATE:.....

Post to: QWSG Treasurer, PO Box 958, NIGHTCLIFF, NT 0814

Cheques to be made out to: Queensland Wader Study Group