

Confirmed talks by Rick and Elis Simpson: all 'Wader Quest' unless otherwise stated.

21/02/2020 (19.15) Marylebone Birdwatching Society (An Inspiration of Waders)
02/04/2020 (19.45) Sevenoaks RSPB local group
09/04/2020 (19.45) North Bucks. RSPB local group (An Inspiration of Waders)
14/04/2020 (tba) Shoreham District Ornithological Society
28/04/2020 (19.30) Shrewsbury RSPB local group
29/04/2020 (19.30) Huntingdonshire RSPB local group
07/05/2020 (19.30) Sheffield RSPB local group (Confessions of a Bird Guide)
21/05/2020 (19.30) Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society

For a complete listing with times and venue, visit the website [Talks page](#). If we are giving a talk near you come and meet us.

Events for 2020

Pensthorpe Bird and Wildlife Fair
Sat 16th & Sun 17th May
British Birdfair
Fri 21st to Sun 23rd Aug
Falsterbo Bird Show
Fri 4th to Sun 6th Sept
Northwest Birdwatching Festival
Sat 17th & Sun 18th Oct
Wader Conservation World Watch
31st Oct & 1st Nov

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DO YOU LOVE YOUR WADERS?

THEN WHY NOT JOIN THE WADER QUEST TEAM?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF WADER QUEST AS PART OF A WORKING GROUP, WHICH WOULD OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY OF THE TRUSTEES. WE WOULD BE LOOKING FOR HELP IN ROLES SUCH AS I.T. SUPPORT, WEBSITE POPULATION, MEMBERSHIP, WADER CONSERVATION WORLD WATCH PROMOTION, MARKETING ETC.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AND WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN ANY ASPECT OF WADER QUEST, THEN PLEASE GET IN TOUCH EITHER AT waderquest@gmail.com OR info@waderquest.net

Editorial - Rick Simpson

As we welcome in the New Year let us spare a thought for all those regions devastated by disasters, natural and man-made, political turmoil and conflict. As we reflect upon the year past and the effort we have made to make the world a better place for waders/shorebirds, it is worth remembering that some do not have the luxury to be concerned about such things and others who do have the will to help, simply cannot due to constraints beyond their control.

That said, those of us who can, should not give up hope and do whatever is within our reach to do our bit, and that is what Wader Quest is all about, doing what we can and hopefully enabling others to do the same.

During 2019 we continued to grow despite the restraints life has placed upon the various Trustees for differing reasons. That is because, we believe, that what we aim to achieve is a just and worthy cause. We know there is still a great and untapped seam of enthusiastic wader lovers out there who have yet to hear about what we do, so please do pass on information about Wader Quest to everyone who would be interested. We have not been very proactive in 2019 and yet we

continued to grow, albeit slowly.

We have welcomed 56 new Friends or Sponsors during the year, but of course this is offset a little by those who did not renew mainly, we feel, because of the hike in fees, but our membership has crept up from a little below 300 to a little over that figure now. **We do need to remind those with Standing Orders to change the amount as the fees have change (in April 2019) as we are still getting payment coming in at the old level.**

Our financial year runs from April to April, so figures about what we have raised and spent are largely irrelevant, but 2019 did see a total of £6,571 going to wader projects around the world from the Wader Quest grants fund.

£1,000.00 – Donated to Curlew Country Shropshire the Lowland Curlew Recovery Project – Eurasian Curlew recovery outside reserves and upland areas.

The UK lowland curlew recovery project

Curlew Country
Based in the Shropshire Hills and Welsh Marches

£500.00 – Donated to Theatre Kimberley for their Shorebird Quest project in Roebuck Bay, Western Australia.



£500.00 – Donated to Community Workshop for Far Eastern Curlew Conservation Action in Pantai Desa Sungai Cemara, Jambi, Indonesia.



£500.00 – Donated to The Curlew Action for Curlew Packs for volunteers.



£775.00 – Donated to Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust to purchase

Total raised for conservation by Wader Quest to date:

£34,330.44

Editorial - cont'd

an incubator for Eurasian Curlew head-starting.



£1,296.00 for geolocators (Light level recorders); Icelandic breeding Purple Sandpipers, Highland Ringing Group/Research Centre for Environmental Science, Raufarhöfn, Melrakkaslétta, Iceland.

HIGHLAND RINGING GROUP

£1,000.00 to the Small Mammals Conservation and Research Foundation, Nepal for studying of Wood Snipe in the Himalayas.



£1,000.00 6th Anniversary Grant; Shorebirds Peninsular Malaysia Project, Nature Camp Programme, Teluk Air Tawar – Kuala Muda, Malaysia.



2019 was also the momentous year that we finally got Charity Commission recognition as a charity in England and Wales. This was due to the hard work and dedication of Andrew Whitelee, one of our Trustees and his partner Penny Insole, who is a constant supporter of Wader Quest giving her time and expertise to Wader Quest by assisting with editing both forthcoming books and general articles and helping out at Bird Fair and other events on the stand.

We brought out five new pin badges in 2019 and re-did the logo badge which now has a backing card for it; see page 6.

During the year we attended a number of events; Pensthorpe Bird and Wildlife Fair, British Birdwatching Fair, Falsterbo Bird Show, Wirral Wader Festival, and Northwest Birdwatching Festival.

The Wader Conservation World Watch came and went with numbers down a little from last year, largely due to lack of time at the preparation stage, we hope that we'll be able to secure some help with this in 2020 reaching a larger audience and therefore achieving better results than in 2019.

We held our first AGM event in Norfolk organised by Andrew Whitelee and Ian Dearing. It was a great success and we hope to repeat something similar again in 2020.

2019 was also the year we realised a dream with the publishing of *Eury The Spoon-billed Sandpiper* in Chinese. 2000 copies have been printed and will be used by *Spoon-billed Sandpiper in China* at workshops in schools, teaching the children about the life and hardships of being a Spoon-billed Sandpiper and the reasons for protecting them long into the future. We would still like to repeat the operation in other countries along the Spoon-billed Sandpiper's migration route so if you know of anyone who may wish to get involved in such a project do let us know.



Rick and Elis Simpson continue to give talks and, although they do this independently of Wader Quest they recruit, make sales and collect donations, 100% of which stays with Wader Quest. This year they have raised £2962.93, this broken down as; sales £1892.00; donations £464.93; sign-ups and renewals £606.00 (this figure includes two people converting to Life Friends). If you would like Rick and Elis to visit your club or society to give a talk about Wader Quest or one of their other titles, then contact them via rick@rick-simpson.com or one of the Wader Quest email addresses to be found on the last

page of this newsletter.

This year we have had to say goodbye to a number of Trustees who have moved on and we wish them all well with their new projects. Lee Dingain, Rachel Walls, Oliver Simms and Sue Healey. They all played crucial and active roles in building Wader Quest during their tenure as Trustees, some from the very beginning. To all of them we say a great big thank you, Wader Quest is all the stronger and better for having had their support and input. Naturally, although we still have sufficient numbers of Trustees to run the charity, if anyone would be interested in joining us then we'd be delighted to hear from you and we will give you details of what is involved. We would particularly welcome anyone who would like to take on the role of overseeing the finances as Treasurer or who could offer help and advice in this respect.

Another new facet of Wader Quest this year was the creation of the Wader Quest grants Panel. This is a panel of three persons; Andrew Whitelee (Chair), Rick Simpson and Jannick Hansen. When applications for grants are received they will be reviewed by the panel and a joint decision will be reached as to whether to make the grant or not.

So, what lies ahead for 2020?

During January and February, all donations received will be ring-fenced and collected to be donated to the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) for their appeal concerning the Brazilian oil spill clean up. See pages 3-5 for details.

We will attend all our usual events during the year and hope that as many of you as possible will visit our stands to say hello and buy some merchandising (see page 6).

We will be actively seeking people to join the **Wader Quest Working Group**.

The group is to be run independently of the Board of Trustees, whose role remains the overseeing of Wader Quest activities and finances.

We envisage having just two meetings of the group per year (plus the AGM) as most of the connectivity needed can be accomplished via email, video conferencing etc.

New way to support wader conservation; sign up to Amazon Smile and make extra money for Wader Quest.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price of eligible purchases.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Sign up [here](#) and indicate [Wader Quest as your chosen charity](#).

Oil spill and shorebirds in Brazil — WHSRN

A letter of appeal from Dr Rob Clay Director of the WHSRN Executive Office;

'With the New Year upon us, we imagine you're reflecting on 2019 and preparing for 2020. At the WHSRN Executive Office we're doing just that – weighing-up our successes and getting ready for the challenges and opportunities ahead. For many shorebirds, 2019 was a good year. As an example, for Red Knot, the single most important wintering site for the species, Bahía Lomas in Chile, received official protected area status; and a record number of horseshoe crabs were rescued by volunteers on the New Jersey beaches of Delaware Bay (through [reTURN the Favor](#)).

However, shorebirds remain one of the groups of birds suffering the greatest declines. And new threats appear all the time. At the beginning of September, as migratory shorebirds began to arrive back at the beaches and mudflats of South America, many found the beaches of northern Brazil blighted with thick, black sludge. Since the first signs of the crude oil were detected at the end of August, deposits have been observed across more than 4,000 kilometres (~2,480 miles) of the Brazilian coast – a distance longer than the entire Atlantic coast of the United States.

As beaches are cleaned and more oil is deposited, the status of these sites is continually being updated to reflect whether they are now 'clean', or still have 'sparse oil' or 'moderate oil'. The important shorebird sites and areas were identified by the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative.

The cause of the spill remains unknown and the extent of the damage is still unfolding. Since August 30th, oil has been found at 980 sites, stretching from Maranhão State in the north to Rio de Janeiro State in the south. According to an official statement from the Brazilian Navy, 5,000 tons of oil have already been removed from beaches, but the amount that remains has yet to be determined.

Today, we're asking for your support for efforts to help understand the impacts and reduce the effects of this devastating oil spill on migratory shorebirds and other wildlife.

We know that oil spills can have dangerous impacts for shorebirds and their habitat, but the scale of this spill has made it difficult to assess the impacts — how many sites, how many shorebirds (and other wildlife), how much oil — all remain unknown. Even with 980 sites identified, there is still large sections of the coastline



Sites affected by the oil spill since 30 August 2019, and their overlap with important shorebird sites and areas. As beaches are cleaned and more oil is deposited, the status of these sites is continually being updated to reflect whether they are now 'clean', or still have 'sparse oil' or 'moderate oil'. New sites where oil is still being discovered are also added daily. Currently, there are 441 clean sites, 507 with less than 10% oil contamination, and 11 with more than 10% contamination. Each 'site' represents a 1km area along the coast. The important shorebird sites and areas were identified by the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative.

that have not be surveyed. At present, at least 470 sites remain to be cleaned. With much of the heavy crude likely lurking below the surface, ongoing efforts to monitor the state of beaches and shorebirds will be key to ensuring an effective long-term response.

WHSRN site partners in Brazil have been working to understand the impact of the oil spill and to address these impacts, at WHSRN sites and beyond.

We at the WHSRN Executive Office are so thankful for all that you do to support conservation action for shorebirds and other

wildlife, and now we're asking you to support action for the epic travellers that call the coast of Brazil home, at least for part of the year. '

Thank you for being as generous as you can in this holiday season.

All the best,
Rob Clay

(With your help we can support their actions. You can donate through Wader Quest see end of article page 5 for how to do so - Ed.)

Oil spill and shorebirds in Brazil — cont'd

Crude oil sludge first appeared along the Northeastern coast of Brazil more than three months ago, yet the cause of the spill remains unknown and the extent of the damage is still unfolding.

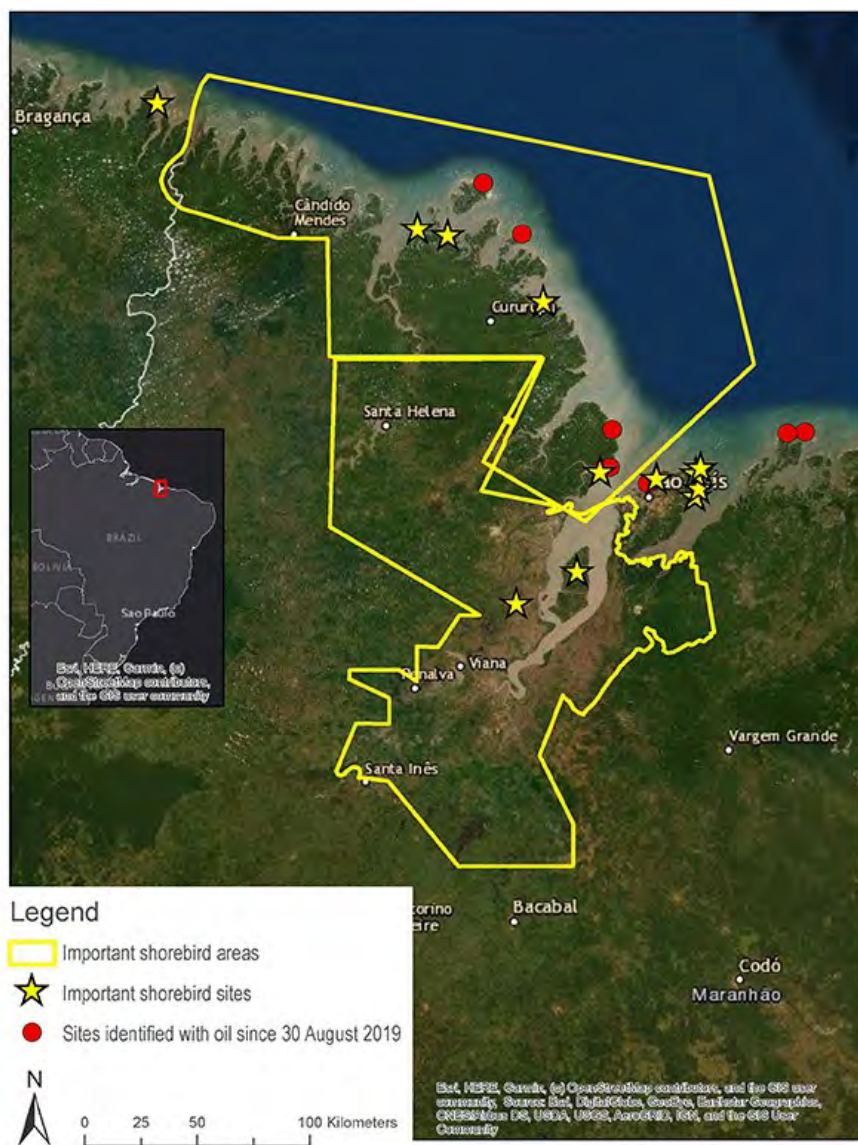
The Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA by its Portuguese acronym) has been publishing a new map on a daily basis highlighting the status of affected areas.

Reentrâncias Maranhenses, a WHSRN Site of Hemispheric Importance in Maranhão State, sits at the northern end of the spill's detected range. The site encompasses more than 2.68 million hectares (6.6 million acres) of bays, estuaries, and sandy beaches. 'Oil has been detected at several locations along the site's coastline,' reported Juliana Bosi de Almeida of WHSRN partner organization SAVE Brasil, 'but the area is remote and difficult to survey so very little is known about the impact of oil in this area, one of the most critical sites for shorebirds along Brazil's northern coast.'

Further south in the state of Ceará, 'it appears that the Banco dos Cajuais will suffer a minimal impact from this oil spill,' said Jason Mobley of WHSRN partner organization Aquasis, referring to Brazil's WHSRN Site of Regional Importance. At this site, 'visible residue [is] mostly limited to softball size, and smaller, crude oil deposits on some beaches and the presence of additional oil slicks in offshore areas. The impact to seagrass beds, bivalves, fisheries and other important resources in the area is most concerning and will be difficult to determine.'

This contamination presents pressing concerns for the millions of shorebirds currently wintering in Brazil, as our colleagues from Manomet's Shorebird Recovery Program elaborated in a recent news article. 'From our work in the Gulf of Mexico after the Deepwater Horizon spill in 2010, we know that even small amounts of light oiling can affect shorebird flight dynamics and thermoregulation,' wrote shorebird biologist Shiloh Schulte. 'Oil ingestion through preening and contaminated prey leads to hydrocarbon concentrations in the blood and likely affects reproductive success.'

It is still just the early days of what will be a long term effort to assess the impacts of this mysterious oil spill. WHSRN partners in Brazil are working tirelessly to support cleanup efforts and survey the impact to shorebirds and their habitats, and the WHSRN Executive Office will continue to provide updates as they become available.



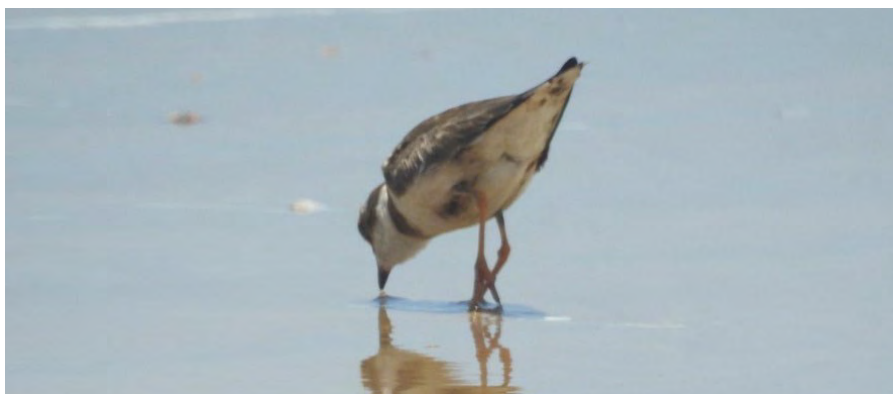
This area of northwest Brazil, which includes WHSRN site Reentrâncias Maranhenses, is one of the most important shorebird areas along the northern coast of South America. Several sites have been identified with oil, but the impact of the contamination is still unknown, as the site is remote and difficult to access.

Originally published by WHSRN see;

[Oil Spill on Brazil Coast Spans almost 2,500 Miles: By Maina Handmaker 18/12/19](#)

Story available in Portuguese:

[Esta história está disponível em português aqui.](#)



A Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus* with oil on its underside - Renato Gaban-Lima.

Oil spill and shorebirds in Brazil — cont'd

WADER QUEST WILL BE DONATING £500 TO WHSRN AT THE END OF FEBRUARY AND WILL ADD TO THAT TOTAL ALL DONATIONS MADE TO US WITHIN THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPECIFICALLY DONATE TO THE PROJECT PLEASE EITHER EMAIL US AT waderquest@gmail.com FOR DETAILS OF HOW TO DO SO OR [DONATE](#) IN THE USUAL WAY VIA OUR WEBSITE DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

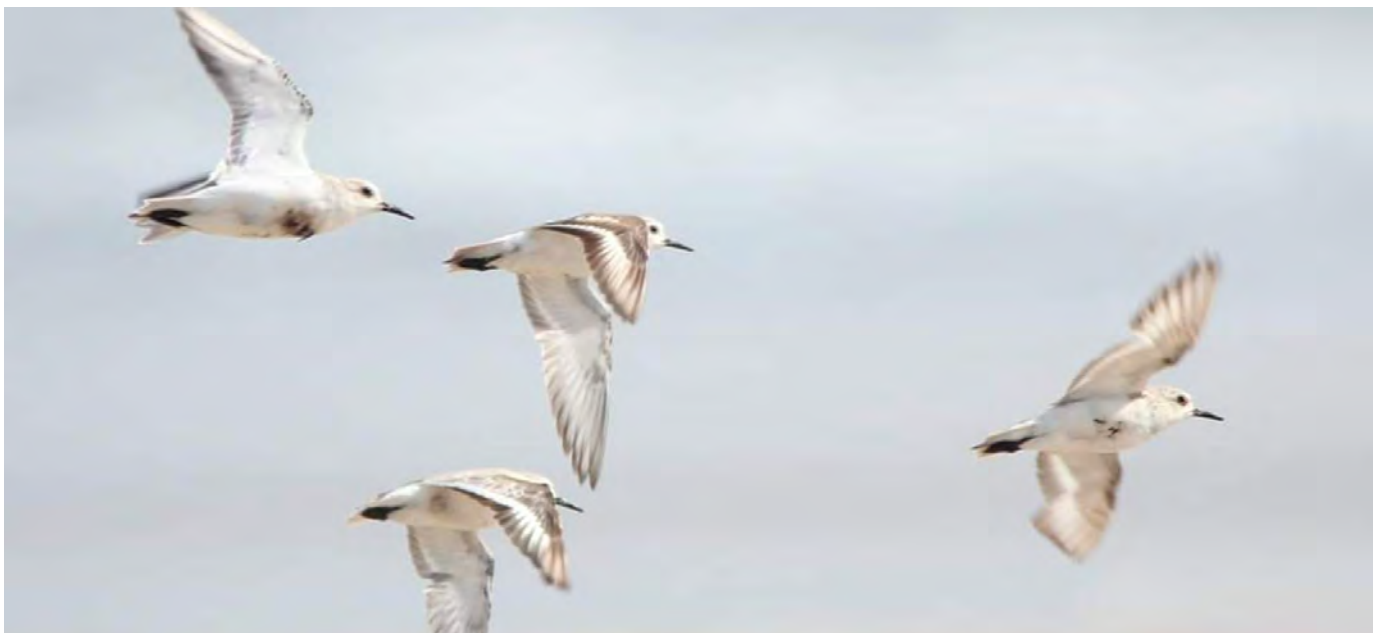
ALTERNATIVELY DONATE DIRECTLY TO WHSRN [HERE](#).



Crude oil material on the beaches of the WHSRN Site Banco dos Cajuais. Photo: Aquasis Migratory Bird Conservation Program.



A Sanderling *Calidris alba* preens oil off its belly feathers - Bruno Jackson Melo de Almeida.



Sanderlings with oil on their feathers - Bruno Jackson Melo de Almeida.

Wader Quest Merchandising

2020 CALENDARS NOW AT £4



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WADER QUEST EARRINGS £10 PAIR

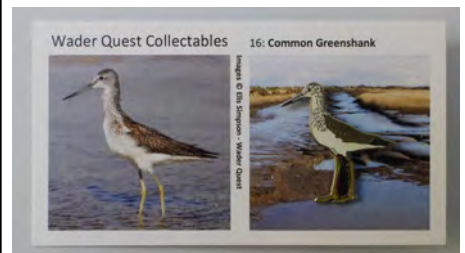


SIGNED LARS JONSSON POSTERS 70 X 50CM £18



All of these products are
subject to additional costs
for post and packing.
For payment details or to
place an order email:
sales@waderquest.net or
waderquest@gmail.com

NEW WADER QUEST PIN BADGES IN 2019 £2 EACH - VISIT THE WADER QUEST [SHOP](https://www.waderquest.net) FOR FULL COLLECTION



Wader Quest Publishing

Eury The Spoon-billed Sandpiper is a beautifully written and illustrated story about the life cycle experience of a critically endangered wader. The title itself provides an interesting and subtle reference to the [old generic] scientific name for this wader species.

We get to know Eury and his family as we might any family. Sometimes to anthropomorphise in this way can be strained, but here it is comfortable and compelling. We can easily envisage our own grandchildren being captivated by Eury's life and the many adventures he encounters, and experiencing the many emotions that, like all good stories, it evokes.

Of course, *Eury The Spoon-billed Sandpiper* is more than a delightful children's story, because through it, the authors Rick and Elis Simpson, who reveal intimate knowledge of the birds, provide a powerful conservation message about the many threats including, and perhaps especially, from 'the creatures that walk upright'. The clever insinuation of themselves into the story, as friendly upright creatures, is a gem.

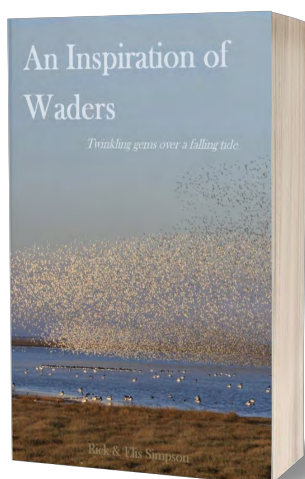
We applaud the authors and the illustrator for this charming and important contribution to children's literature about endangered waders."

Mike & Rose Clear

(Authors of "Letters to the Family – The Story of an Endangered Shorebird": Envirobook, Sydney 2010)



Eury The Spoon-billed Sandpiper - £7.50 plus p&p



An Inspiration of Waders - £8.50 plus p&p

This book looks at the cultural connection we have with waders and how they have inspired us down the centuries. It looks at how the authors have been inspired by waders and how other waderologists have likewise been inspired. It looks at some of the myths and legends surrounding this interesting group of birds plus their place in art, music and literature.

Waders have inspired many things in human history from hieroglyphs to voyages of discovery, many of which are featured. Some waders themselves have proved to be inspirational and their stories can be found within this book.

The underlying purpose of the book is to encourage the use of a suggested new collective noun for a mixed or unidentified flock of waders over an estuary (no prizes for guessing what it is).

Three appendices cover other collective nouns for waders, a ditty about the Spoon-billed Sandpiper and information about Wader Quest.

The foreword is by Keith Betton; Hampshire County Recorder, former Council Member of the RSPB and currently Vice President of the BTO.

ISBN 978-0-9955146-1-4 (Wader Quest Publishing)

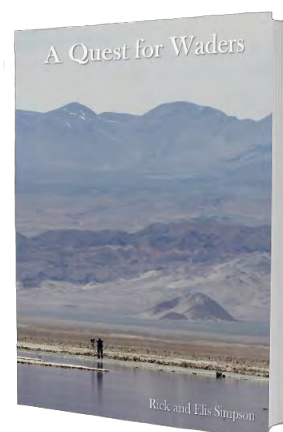
COMING SOON

A Quest for Waders by Rick and Elis Simpson. Proposed release date August 2020.

This is the story of Wader Quest from the seed of an idea in a house in Buckinghamshire through travels to fourteen countries on six continents in search of waders.

It includes much additional information about the species seen as well as anecdotes from their travels.

It also charts another journey, that of Wader Quest itself and the gradual realisation that all was not well in the world of waders, culminating in the establishing of Wader Quest as a charity.

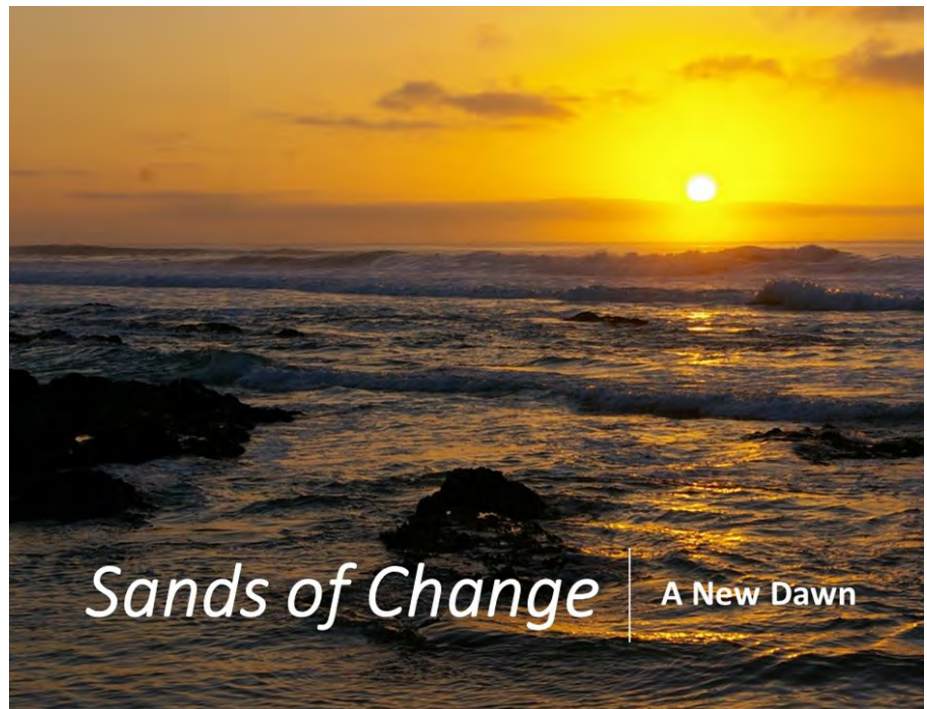


A Quest for Waders - price tba

The Sands of Change: Series 2 Episode 2 — Nature's Valley Trust

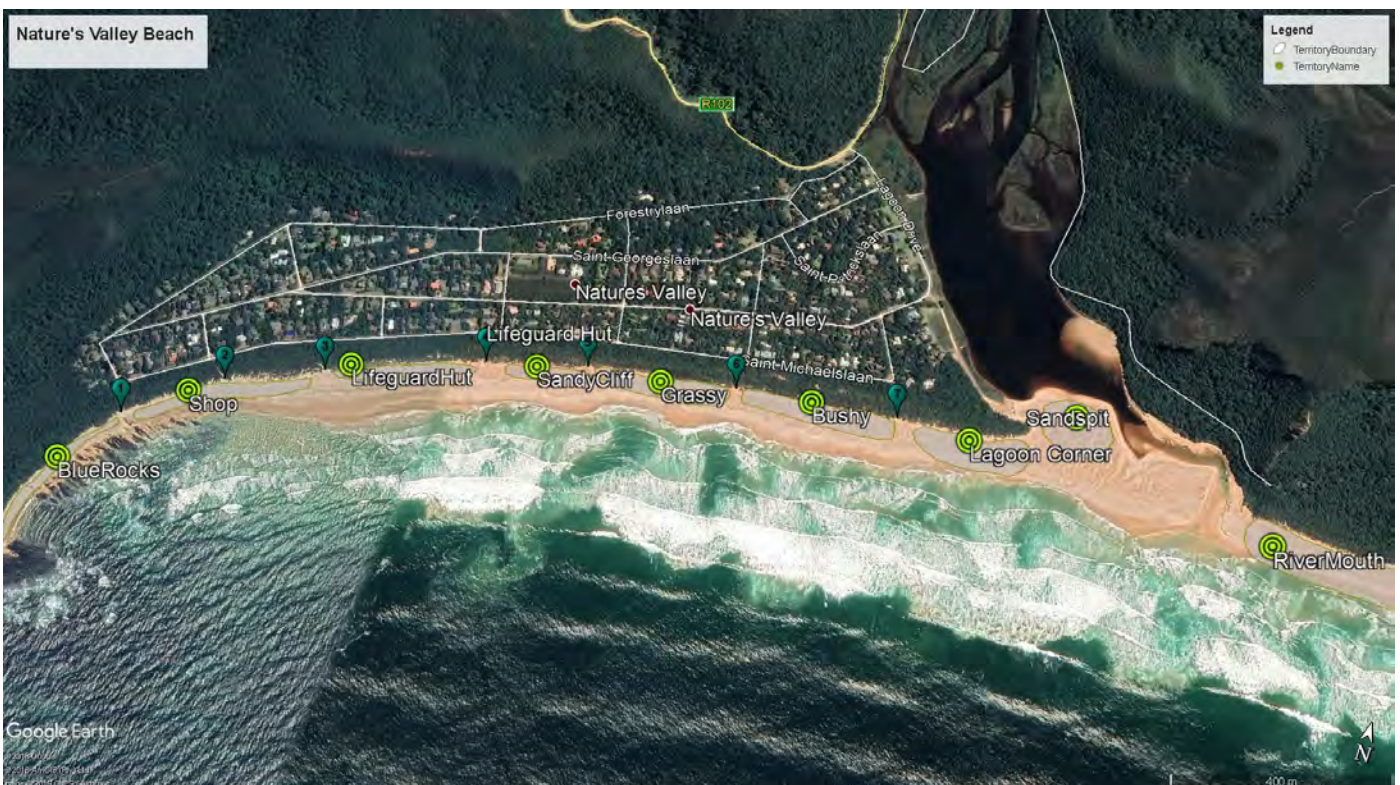
'These stories were written in order to make our coastal work, namely the shorebird component of coastal impact programme, more accessible to the lay-person. This is the person to whom the jargon of scientific work does not resonate but they do indeed still care for our environment and the animals that live in it. So we use a social media platform to bridge the gap, to share the plight of the shorebirds in a way that appeals to everyone. With this out the box idea we try to connect people emotionally to shorebirds, and of course to spread awareness in that way. Everyone loves a good soapy!'

These stories are written mainly by the interns and staff of NVT who work on the shorebird programme. We grow to know each and every pair of shorebirds that nest on Nature's Valley and Lookout beach very well and try to make it a bit easier for them to fledge their young. We are with the nests from egg to fledge, constantly monitoring and so we get very well acquainted with the social structure and general behaviour of the adults. The stories are based on true events



with a little bit of imagination added here and there to make it a palatable read.'
- Brittany Arendse NVT.

[We loved this idea of connecting with the local community through storytelling so decided to serialise the stories.]



As the wind blows on the beaches, forever changing the sands, so too are the lives of our shorebirds eternally being altered. This has certainly been the case for the beautiful un-banded Plover female that has made

Lagoon corner, at Nature's Valley beach, her home. The last few months have certainly dealt this little heroine of ours with a lot of trials and tribulations. Talk in the Valley has been rife with gossip at how the adulterous

and unfeeling Ed abandoned her when she needed him most, leaving her and their two gorgeous chicks to fend for themselves. Misfortune was to follow this broken little family for some time and soon one of the

The Sands of Change: Series 2 Episode 2 — cont'd

twins vanished without a trace. Downtrodden, heartbroken and distraught, things looked pretty bleak for our heroine, but it seems the sands were about to change once more for this attractive un-banded female.

To all appearances, she has found love once more. Recently, she has been spotted scurrying about the shoreline with a breath-taking un-banded male. Can he be the male of her dreams and, more importantly, will he be more faithful than our ever-cavorting Ed? Only time can tell what will happen with this new and blossoming romance. And what of her remaining chick? It seems the changing tides have brought good luck to the whole of this browbeaten family. The chick has recently come into its true feathers, strutting its stuff proudly on the beach with his mom and newly adopted step-dad never far away. It is expected that this little one will soon fledge, leaving the two lovebirds to hopefully start a nest of their own. Let's just hope this little Plover takes after its dutiful and caring mother, instead of the disloyal Ed.

Any update on Ed you may wonder? Well, currently he seems to be smitten with the vibrant Violet and, with the two of them scraping up a storm, our researchers are cautiously hopeful that soon this pair will have a nest of their very own. In time we will see if Violet can tame Ed's wicked ways and, hopefully, he will be a doting mate and father before too long.

Do not, however, think that Ed and all his girls are the only things being chirped about in the Valley. Oh no, it seems scandal and intrigue follow all the plovers living here on Nature's Valley beach. In recent weeks sensation has started to surround Wilma. When last we left this little plover she was happily paired with Fred and they spent their days blissfully around the Blue Rocks territory. However, was this happy union soon to be placed into history? In the past few weeks it appears Wilma and Fred may have parted ways! Was Wilma heart-broken with this development? It seems maybe not and it appears that Wilma has started to seek comfort and companionship elsewhere. In the last few weeks this confident female has been seen with a young, strapping male. It seems age is but a number for this pair and shockingly, this little male is a mere fledgling from last season. This has certainly ruffled up a few feathers in the Valley and



Almost ready to fledge - NVT



Ed & Violet still a couple - NVT



Eduardo the young - NVT



Handsome Fred- NVT



The Sands of Change: Series 2 Episode 2 — cont'd

heads have been turning at the news of this scandalous union.

Researchers are once more left with many pressing questions. What, if anything, caused the rupture between Wilma and Fred? Has Wilma moved on to greener pastures with this young male or has she merely taken this yearling under her wing while she awaits the return of the sensible Fred? What will happen if Fred returns to the Blue Rocks territory? Will Wilma return to her more mature companion or rather nest with this young new toy boy? With the sands certain to change once more, only time will tell if this yearling will be up to scratch for wilful Wilma or if she will go fluttering back to faithful Fred.

What turmoil and triumphs await our Plovers next? The tides are turning, the winds are blowing, the sands are ever changing and one can but hazard a guess how all this will affect the lives of our gallant shorebird community.



Unbanded lovebirds - NVT



Wilma; who to choose? - NVT

Citizen Science and Red Knots *Calidris canutus* - Richard Smith

'Welcome to the world of wader research' I thought as both my boots and tripod sank deep into thick estuarine mud, but despite the mud I was actually enjoying myself as I was surrounded by Red Knots. That particular day several thousand were walking towards me as they fed, coming so close I could almost touch them. Later 20,000 would all take off from their roost in one noisy roar of wings as a Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* flew by, just fantastic! But what was I doing out there on the Dee Estuary mud flats? I was reading colour rings/flags as part of the Altcar Red Knot Colour-Ringing Project.

I'm not some University student doing research for a PhD, or somebody employed by a conservation organisation. I'm just a 70 year old birdwatcher doing a bit of Citizen Science. That's the beauty of colour rings, reporting just one bird contributes to the research. But here on the Dee Estuary we are not talking about one colour-ringed Red Knot, we are talking about hundreds and for an obsessive colour ring reader like myself the past two years has been like paradise!

Where

The Dee Estuary is located on the west coast of the United Kingdom, and is part of a mega site which also includes the Mersey, Alt and Ribble Estuaries as well as Morecambe Bay. All this area holds hundreds of thousands of wetland birds and is particularly important during a cold winter when the relatively mild climate means birds can find refuge here



Colour ringed Red Knot 'HT' - Elliot Monteith

from the colder North Sea coasts, including the Wadden Sea. The Red Knots are ringed at a wader roost near the village of Altcar which is between Crosby and Formby on the Seaforth coast, just a few kilometres from the Dee estuary to the west and the Ribble estuary to the north.

The Altcar Red Knot Colour-Ringing Project

I'll let Jim Wilson, Red Knot researcher, explain what this project is all about:

From the Wetland Bird Survey Counts the Red Knots in west coast UK in autumn and spring have been in more or less constant decline since the 1970s. From

sightings made by Peter Knight and Rose Maciewicz we found out that Dutch and Norwegian marked birds were mostly missing in the autumn and spring, but are present in the winter (the well known westward movement of Knots during the winter). In the autumn of 2017 they mainly only saw birds we marked in SW Iceland in spring 2017 and a few which we marked in NW Iceland in spring 2014 (1086 flagged). The present theory is that the west coast populations in autumn and spring can be a sub-population of the 'islandica' Red Knots *Calidris Canutus islandica*. Possibly, as the sites lie about 300 kms nearer Iceland than the Wadden Sea and

Citizen Science and Red Knots *Calidris canutus* - cont'd



Colour ringed Red Knot 'VL' - Richard Smith

have a warmer spring climate, then birds migrating north out of the west coast can leave earlier, have more time to fatten in Iceland and penetrate further west into the breeding grounds (north-east Canada). Most previous publications have focussed on the wintering population and not on the autumn and spring populations.

Also there are about 5,000 2year birds summering on the Alt and Ribble. The Alt/Ribble area is one of the most important sites in the North-east Atlantic Flyway for 2year birds (i.e. the future breeding stock). These have never been studied.



Colour ringed Red Knot 'CVC' - Richard Smith

This Research will add focus on the importance of the Alt/Ribble in autumn and spring and also on the huge and uncontrolled disturbance on the Alt/Ribble coast (and elsewhere in the northwest of the UK). Also it will show to what extent the autumn and spring Alt/Ribble populations are using all the north western coast estuaries and other parts of the Irish Sea and if there is a link between

the wintering French populations (about 40,000 Knots) and the Irish Sea.

Orange Flags

There have been three catches of Red Knot at Altcar with 519 in September 2017, 494 in March 2018 and 16 in March 2019, a total of 1029. All have been fitted with an inscribed Orange flag as shown in the photographs, plus either a pale blue or green ring – shorthand for which is OfP and OfG. The past two and a bit years since that first catch has resulted in the most productive work on Red Knot ever in the UK with a remarkable total of 5945 records of 927 orange flagged birds, 90% of the total caught which we think is probably a record. See table 1 below for a breakdown by area/country:



Colour ringed Red Knot '84' - Richard Smith

A lot of people have been involved in recording these birds, but by far the bulk were gathered by just four of us with Peter Knight and Rose Maciewicz with 3086 records (mainly on the Alt/Ribble Estuaries but also Iceland and Ireland) and Steve Hinde and myself, with 1903 records (north Wirral/



Colour ringed Red Knot 'OY' - Richard Smith

Dee Estuary). This has meant spending hundreds of hours on the mud flats, day after day, but we love it even though our fellow birders think we're mad!

Results

The analysis of all this data, and the data still to come in over the coming years, is still in the early stages but we've already seen plenty of interest, including:

It has been confirmed there is a sub-population of Red Knot which moult in the Alt/Ribble area post breeding. It is late October before these birds disperse from there with many flying the short distance to north Wirral and the Dee Estuary to spend the winter, although many return to roost in the Alt area (Seaforth/Crosby/Formby) to roost, particularly on spring tides. Others move north to Morecambe Bay and in some winters many also fly over to the eastern coast of Ireland where they have been seen in Dublin and Dundalk Bays. At the end of the

Area/Country	Number of Birds	Number of Records
Alt/Ribble Estuaries	804	3292
North Wirral/Dee Estuary	564	1932
Morecambe Bay	86	166
Wales	2	2
Ireland	62	112
Scotland	11	16
Iceland	120	206
Norway	3	6
Netherlands	45	185
Germany	3	7
Azores	1	3
Mauritania	1	1

Table 1.

Citizen Science and Red Knots *Calidris canutus* - cont'd

winter they return to the Alt/Ribble area before their spring migration in May – what we call an ‘Irish Sea winter shuttle’

✿ Many *islandica* Red Knot stage in Iceland in May before heading to Canada to breed. Flag reading has shown that the Alt/Ribble birds have a marked preference to stage in south-west Iceland between the Reykjanes and Snaefellsnes Peninsulas. Interestingly in late April 2019 a compass bearing was taken of Red Knot leaving Southport beach as they headed north-west. The bearing of 322° would have taken them straight to Reykjavik in south-west Iceland.

✿ Another staging area used by *islandica* Red Knot is northern Norway but very few of the Alt/Ribble birds use this route with only three birds recorded there.

✿ Thanks to colour-ringing we know if it has been a good breeding season before anybody else! This is because the females leave the breeding grounds before the males due to the latter's greater involvement in brood rearing. The birds were recorded as they arrived back at Alt/Ribble and by using wing length measured when they were ringed as a surrogate for sex, the average wing length of each day's newly observed Knot was determined to test whether the longer winged females arrive before the males. In 2018 females did indeed arrive back before the males and it did turn out to have been a good breeding season. The 2019 data showed that the first adult Knot returned about 1 week earlier in the autumn season than in 2018. Early thoughts were that this might reflect a poor breeding year. This was short lived when the analysis indicated a very strong females-first arrival pattern. This was further supported by the observation in late August of exceptional flocks of 1000+ juvenile Knot on Merseyside, as well as reports elsewhere in the UK and the Netherlands of large numbers of juveniles.

✿ Some unusual movements have been recorded with one bird turning up on the Azores in September 2018 and another at Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, in December 2018. *islandica* Red Knots are very much



Colour ringed Red Knot 'ETE' - Richard Smith

vagrants at both locations. The bird recorded in the Azores made it back to Formby beach where it was recorded in August 2019.

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WADERS NEED LOVE TOO! JOIN US FOR OUR 2020 WADER CONSERVATION WORLD WATCH - 31st October & 1st NOVEMBER



See page 34 or [WCWW webpage](http://www.waderquest.org.uk/wcww) for details

The Survey and Workshop on Management planning of Pantai Cemara, Jambi and Far Eastern Curlew Conservation — Ragil Rihadini

Pantai Cemara, located in Jambi Province, Sumatra, Indonesia, is known as one of the most important wetlands for migratory waterbirds, including the globally endangered Nordmann's Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*, Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*, Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*, Vulnerable Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes* and the Near threatened Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*. The Far Eastern Curlew, together with many other shorebirds are declining in numbers along the flyway. Hence, the conservation management of Pantai Cemara is important for the migratory shorebirds. In 2019, Jambi Governor declared Pantai Cemara as an Essential Ecosystem Area (KEE initiative) to support wildlife habitats, especially for the conservation of migratory waterbirds. EKSAI is a newly formed NGO dedicated to shorebird conservation. They carried out a waterbird survey at Pantai Cemara from 19th to 30th November 2019, led by Iwan Febrianto and with financial support from the ASEAN Flyway Network (AFN) project, the far eastern curlew task force – EAAFP, and Wader Quest. More than 15,000 birds were recorded during the survey, including 36 individual Far Eastern Curlews, 28 Nordmann's Greenshanks and 5000 Great Knots.

Around 800 people live in the nearby village, Sungai Cemara, surviving mainly on fishing and agriculture. It is crucial for the conservation of Pantai Cemara to take their livelihood improvement into consideration. A workshop was held in Jambi on 5 December 2019 to discuss the management and planning of Pantai Cemara with relevant government agencies, universities, NGOs and the local community. Mr. Taupiq Bukhari, Director of Provincial Forestry Department of Jambi and Mr. Rahmad Saleh, Director of Provincial Natural Resources Conservation Agency of Jambi attended the meeting and asked participants to provide comments and suggestions for the conservation initiative. This was followed by a field trip on 6-8 December to better understand the site condition. The workshop was organized by the Jambi Provincial Agencies of Conservation of Natural Resources and EKSAI Foundation. Ecotourism opportunities to support the local community by improving their income and simultaneously preserving the ecosystem were discussed. David Li from Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve and Ragil Satriyo Gumilang from Wetland International - Indonesia



Waterbird survey by EKSAI - Cipto Dwi Handona



The Workshop in progress - David Li



Field survey by workshop participants - EKSAI

Program were invited to share their experiences on case studies of wetland management.

The workshop was well received with active involvement from all parties. It was suggested that the site should be nomi-

The Survey and Workshop on Management planning of Pantai Cemara, Jambi and Far Eastern Curlew Conservation — cont'd

nated as an East Asian-Australasian Flyway Waterbird Network site and Ramsar site. The local community has been trained by EKSAI for the development of the ecotourism programs. The transport and accommodation can be improved in the future by developing their roads, boats and home stay facilities to enhance these programs.

A local community youth group had been set up by EKSAI to monitor the migratory birds and their habitat fortnightly from January 2020. We thank Mr. David Li for his personal donation of SGD 500 to kick start this program. This initiative can empower the locals of Sungai Cemara Village, Jambi, to be guardians and educators to monitor and protect the migratory waterbirds of Pantai Cemara.

Report by Ragil Rihadini, EKSAI Foundation, Indonesia, ragil.rihadini@gmail.com



Meeting with local community on future planning - Cipto Dwi Handona

Migratory Waterbird Survey at Pantai Cemara, Sungai Cemara Village -Jambi; Final Report Wader Quest Small Grant Fund — Iwan Febrianto, Cipto Dwi Handono, Ragil S. Rihadini & Ahmad Zulfikar A.



Waders at Pantai Cemara Jambi - EKSAI 2019/ cipto_deha

Migratory Waterbird Survey at Pantai Cemara, Sungai Cemara Village -Jambi; Final Report Wader Quest Small Grant Fund — cont'd

The aims of this project are to identify the migratory waterbird species and population at Pantai Cemara, Jambi, Sumatera, Indonesia, protect the important stopover sites for migratory waterbirds by educating the government, local people and community around the sites, as the effort of reducing the threat of habitat degradation, habitat loss and human disturbance at the stopover area.

INTRODUCTION

Pantai Cemara, lies in coastal part of Sungai Cemara village, Tanjung Jabung Timur Regency, Jambi Province - located near Berbak-Sembilang National Park and is one of the most important stopover area for migratory shorebird in Indonesia. It is located 121 km from the city of Jambi. The habitat of Pantai Cemara can be divided into three types; a vast expanse of mudflat; beach she-oak *Casuarina equisetifolia* and mangrove. The extensive mudflats in Pantai Cemara are a perfect foraging habitat for migratory shorebirds, with more than 20.000 birds stopping in this area every year to take a rest and refill their energy before continuing their migratory journey. In the Field Guide: Shorebirds in Pantai Desa Sungai Cemara, 32 species of migratory shorebird are recorded including Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* as one of several endangered species recorded there which in 2009 was only a least concern species but the IUCN status increased into Vulnerable in 2010 and Endangered in 2015, this condition was caused by habitat loss and loss of stopover sites. Beside Far Eastern Curlew there are also several endangered species recorded there, such as, Nordmann's Greenshank *Tringa guttifer* and Great Knot *Calidri tenuirostris*.

Beside the potency of its habitat, Jambi government has also given more attention for protection and management to this area, as seen in the Governor's Decree (SK Gubernur Nomor 425 tahun 1996), which has established Pantai Cemara Jambi as a protection area for waterbirds, shorebirds and as a stopover area for migratory waterbirds. This decree is a positive sign from the government for protecting migratory bird stopover areas.

SAMPLING METHOD

Observation Point Coordinates; -1.434020, 104.455430 (1°26'02.5"S 104°27'19.6"E) From a preliminary survey we determined one survey point. From the condition of the site and the access of the area, it was not possible to have more than one survey point. We carried out the survey at high

tide, in this condition the flock was gathered on the survey point, so it easier to count and identify the species.

RESULTS

We did the monitoring for 10 days from 20 until 30 November 2019 and we recorded more than 40.000 individuals from 31 species of migratory waterbird including the Far Eastern Curlew, and two other endangered species, Nordmann's or Spotted Greenshank and Great Knot. We also spotted White-faced Plover *Charadrius dealbatus* which is a IUCN Data Deficient species.

From the monitoring process, we recorded a total of 50 individuals of Nordmann's Greenshank (3,8 % of global population), the most encounters on 27th of November 2019 with 28 individuals of Nordmann's Greenshank (2,2 % of global popula-

tion). For Great Knot, in ten days we recorded total 6711 individuals or 2,3% of global population, the most encounters on 30th of November 2019 with 1950 individuals of Great Knot species (fig. 1).

Based on Table 1, Pantai Cemara also became a stopover site for more than 40,000 individuals from 31 migratory waterbird species. The most abundance species is Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* with total species count are 13,468 individuals or 1,2% of it's global population. The species with highest percentage of global population is Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus* with 1,252 total species count and 5,4% of global population.

Beside those species which already listed in the Book of Pantai Cemara Shorebird (Tirtaningtyas and Febrianto, 2010), we

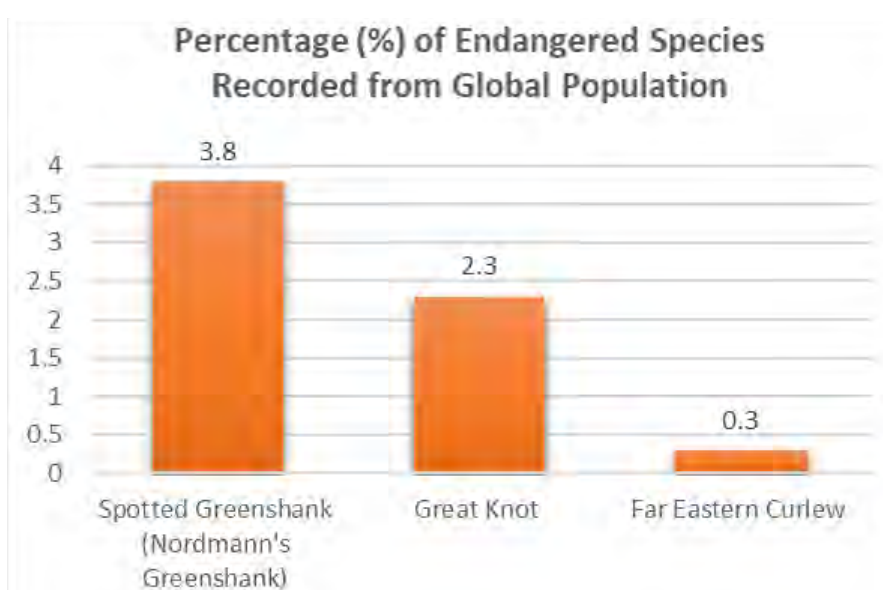


Fig. 1. Chart of percentage (%) of Endangered Species Recorded from Global Population

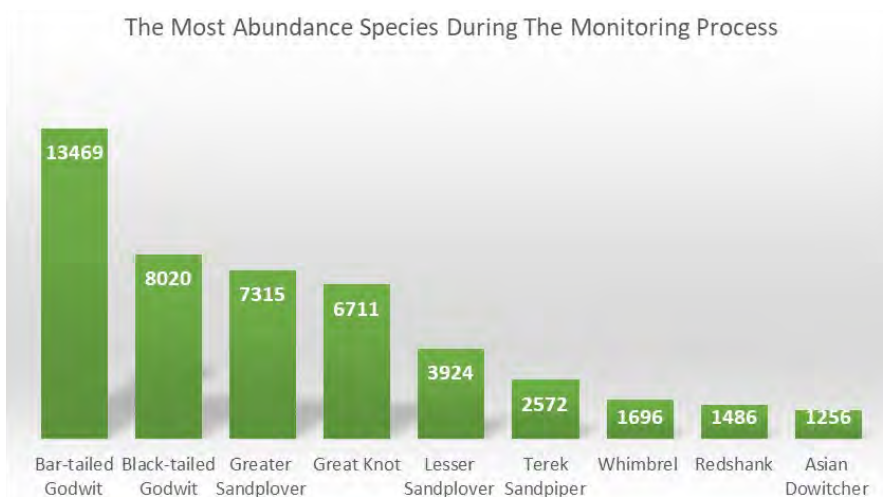


Fig. 2. Chart of nine most abundance species during the monitoring process at Pantai Cemara, Jambi

Migratory Waterbird Survey at Pantai Cemara, Sungai Cemara Village -Jambi; Final Report Wader Quest Small Grant Fund — cont'd

No	Species	Total Species Count	IUCN Status	Percentage of Total Species Count from Global Population
1.	White-Faced Plover	16	DD (Data Deficient)	Unknown
2.	Great Knot	6711	EN	2,3%
3.	Far Eastern Curlew	73	EN	0,3%
4.	Nordmann's Greenshank	50	EN	3,8%
5.	Greater Sandplover	7315	LC	2,2%
6.	Grey Plover	117	LC	0,012%
7.	Lesser Sandplover	3924	LC	1%
8.	Pacific Golden Plover	33	LC	0,01%
9.	Kentish Plover	8	LC	0,002%
10.	Caspian Tern	872	LC	0,2%
11.	Common Tern	524	LC	0,01%
12.	Common Gull-billed Tern	181	LC	0,04%
13.	Greater Crested Tern	997	LC	0,09%
14.	Little Tern	50	LC	0,01%
15.	Marsh Sandpiper	679	LC	0,06%
16.	Terek Sandpiper	2572	LC	0,2%
17.	Common Redshank,	1486	LC	0,05%
18.	Whimbrel	1696	LC	0,07%
19.	Common Sandpiper	6	LC	0,0002%
20.	Rudy Turnstone	25	LC	0,03%
21.	Common Greenshank	11	LC	0,0007%
22.	Sanderling	7	LC	0,001%
23.	Malaysian Plover	7	NT	0,028%
24.	Javan Plover	1	NT	0,025%
25.	Asian Dowitcher	1256	NT	5,4%
26.	Black-tailed Godwit	8020	NT	1%
27.	Bar-tailed Godwit	13469	NT	1,2%
28.	Red Knot	768	NT	0,8%
29.	Eurasian Curlew	284	NT	0,02%
30.	Red Necked Stint	34	NT	0,01%
31.	Curlew Sandpiper	23	NT	0,002%
32.	Chinese Egret	3	VU	0,08%



White-face (L) and Javan Plover, Pantai Cemara
Jambi - EKSAI 2019/ cipto_deha

also recorded a non-migratory shorebird which is Javan Plover *Charadrius javanicus* which never recorded before at Jambi. It is first record of Javan Plover at Pantai Cemara Jambi. Based on IUCN website, Javan Plover was previously considered to only be found at Java and the Kangean Island, Indonesia (BirdLife International, 2001), but has also been recently reported from Sumatra, Sulawesi and the Lesser Sundas including Timor-Leste (Trainor 2011, Iqbal et al. 2013). Based on Iqbal et al., (2013), Javan Plover reported from Sumatra at Lampung Province and Bangka Island, but not yet been reported spotted at Jambi Province.

Sharing and Educate the Local People of Pantai Cemara about Migratory Birds

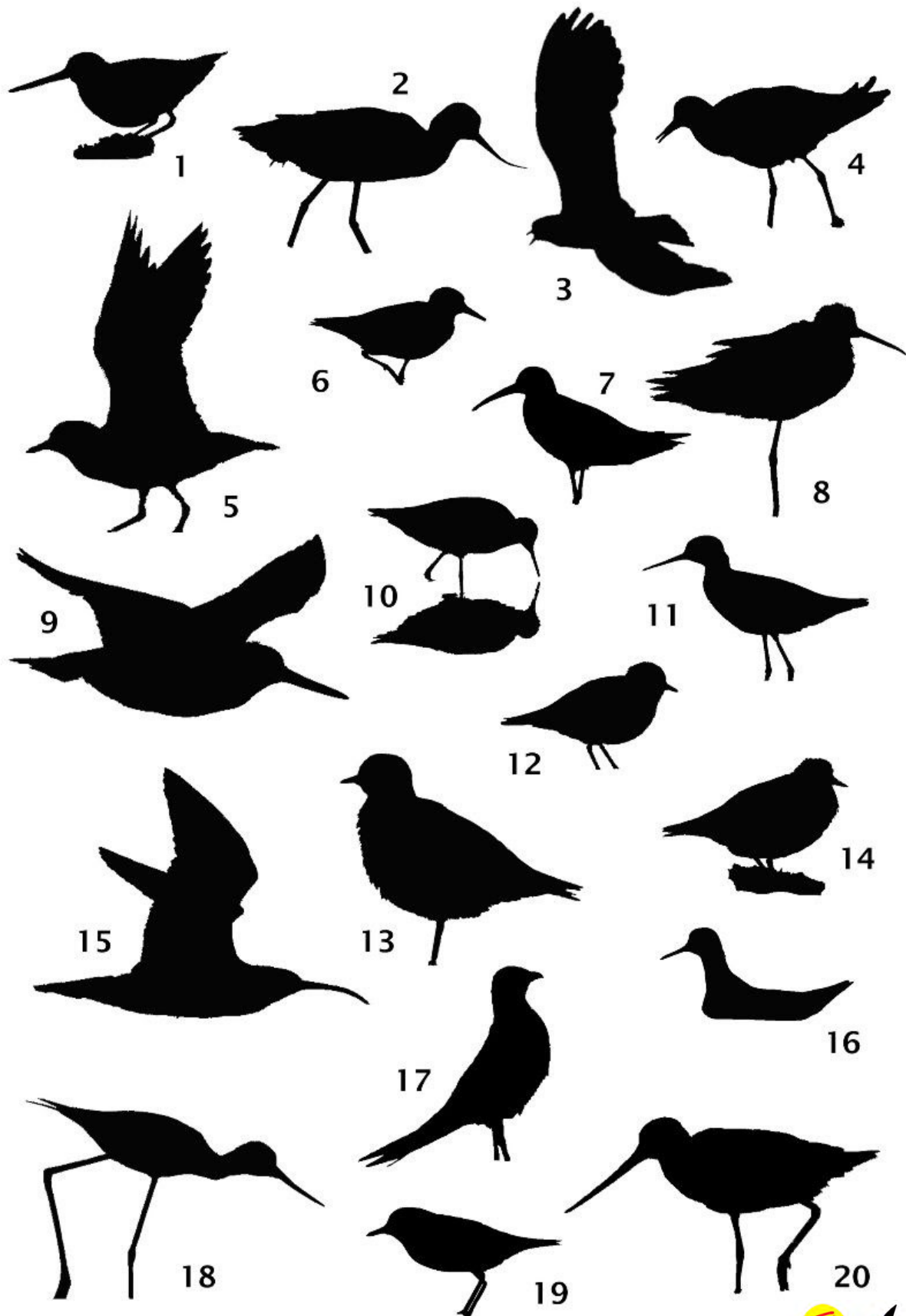
On 22nd of November 2019, we gathered the local people to share and provide education about migratory waterbird to the local people. Total of the participant are 23 people, and they were all enthusiastic when we talking about birds. The people of Desa Sungai Cemara are positive and eager to learn about birds. There are three local people that we invited to join the monitoring and we trained to identified and count the birds. Since this report is made, they are still do the monitoring on migratory waterbird every month.

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Fun Wader Silhouette Quiz — Steve and Florinda West

Identify these wader silhouettes (all European wader species) - Answers on page 35



Maianbar, NSW, Australia — Julie Keating



Pied Oystercatchers pair with chick - Julie Keating

I live in the village of Maianbar, one of two villages nestled along the north eastern edge of the Royal National Park, the world's 2nd oldest national park. It is the most southern coastal fringe of Sydney. The village has a population of 521 residents at last census, but in summer the suburb, water, beach, campgrounds, picnic grounds and tidal flats can see five times that number.

Attractions include beaches, waterways, and different types of bushland to ramble through. Twenty-five years ago it was predominantly a holiday house community, with small fibro shacks, but now is mostly full-time residents with much larger houses and many more dogs. Dogs have been banned on NSW beaches and public bathing areas since 1981, but there is little regulation. You can now regularly see dogs getting their exercise chasing birds, while their owners stand around chatting with each other, fishing or bait pumping.

There is a large variety of water, sea, wader (resident and migratory), ocean going, heathland, grassland, riparian, littoral & sclerophyll forest birds, raptors and parrots, all within 151 sq km.

Our waders include Masked Lapwings *Vanellus miles*, Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris* and Sooty Oystercatchers *H. ophthalmicus*. We also have the superheros of the migratory wader world, Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* (largest migratory wader and longest bill) and

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* (longest non-stop migratory flight) plus a few that use our tidal flats as a refuelling stop such as Red-necked Avocets *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*, Red Knots *Calidris canutus*, Common Greenshanks *Tringa nebularia* and Grey-tailed Tattlers *Tringa brevipes*. In winter we host the east/west migratory birds, the Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*, resident of New Zealand.

After twenty years of having my garden done over by feral Indonesian Rusa Deer *Cervus timorensis*, we installed two gates. I was feeling really chuffed. The deer had most of the garden, but I had a space I could now call my own, or so I thought.

Australia is in the grip of a severe drought. For the first time anyone in the village can remember we now have Superb Lyrebirds *Menura novaehollandiae* living in our gardens. This is both a delight and a frustration. I've only had the gates in for six months. They are no match for a foraging lyrebird. It is a bird that can dig every plant out of its bed, or pot, and leaves pots emptied and upside down. They are like a mini tornado that passes through three times a day. One is a young male. The delight part is being able to watch him practising his courtship display, which lasts half an hour. His tail shakes curled above his head are looking impressive and the list of birds he can mimic is increasing. Breeding season doesn't start here until May of next year, so he will be

more than ready.

Turning to our waders. Resident birds:

The Masked Lapwings used to be successful breeders on Deeban Spit until dunes started to be severely eroded back in 2012. This was due to increased east coast low weather systems (severe storms; almost cyclone strength). The rate of erosion has been increasing. The Lapwings used to nest under the wattle bush that dominated the spit when it was four metres in height. The spit is 1.2km long but at spring tides, with large swells, can be mostly underwater with only a few grassed domes existing. There have been any number of pairs trying to nest amongst the grasslands but they do not provide enough protection from the human traffic and foxes. In the last five years I have only seen two chicks hatched, and never knew if they managed to fledge successfully. They were harassed severely by teenage boys that found their dive bombing to protect nests or chicks funny.

The severe erosion did present opportunities for the Pied Oystercatchers. With the flattening and visual opening of the beach, five years ago a pair decided to move in and attempt breeding. Back then I had no idea that birds even nested on beaches, let alone know what to do to help. It was a steep learning curve. Sutherland Shire Council were wonderful providing signage, resident letter-box drops and fencing. After four years of trial and error the birds successfully raised

Maianbar, NSW, Australia — cont'd

one chick in 2018. This was the 1st time in twenty-five years that a Pied Oystercatcher chick has successfully fledged on a public Sydney beach.

Word of the success must have gotten out as a 2nd pair of breeding Oystercatchers moved in this year, but unfortunately neither pair were successful. A fox family took all four nests plus the Masked Lapwing nests. It is thought that there are only 200 breeding pairs of Pied Oystercatchers left in NSW. We continue to work hard to achieve nesting success and have a volunteer crew to chat with beach users during nesting season to help keep the birds on nest and spread the word about how people can help all our waders.

Migratory birds:

Far eastern curlew numbers have experienced one of the most severe declines of any migratory wader. Numbers have dropped by 80% over the past three decades. By 2035, researchers fear its numbers could fall to just 10% of what they were in 1993. Our tidal flats on Port Hacking were supporting twenty-three curlews last year. We lost one prior to last migration with a broken wing and are only counting seventeen this season. This year saw us find a leg-flagged Curlew. There were only eight Far Eastern Curlews ringed in Jiangsu, China, this year and we are hosting one for the summer.

<https://wwrg.org.uk/wwrg-in-china-2019>

Bar-tailed Godwits used to be regular summer visitors here. Five years ago they stopped over summering and started transiting, using our space only as a refuelling spot for a two week period. This year has seen the return of the Godwits in numbers far greater than we used to host. There have been significant pressures in Botany Bay, their Sydney stronghold, with the bay having seen expansion of the airport and ship ports and increased erosion of their space at Towra Nature Reserve. We were lucky enough to record one Godwit leg-flagged at Chongming Island on the 1st October, but it was a refueler, and continued on to its summer home. Like the Far Eastern Curlews there were only eight ringed. Amazing to record two ringed birds when we host such a small number, with such a small number being ringed.

All around Australia the key biodiversity areas for waders are under threat of development. Unbelievable, given Australia is a signatory to CAMBA, JAMBA and ROKAMBA conventions, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention), and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Western Port (Victoria), Lake Wollumboola (NSW), Toondah Harbour (Qld), and tidal flats of Darwin all host significant num-



Bar-tailed Godwits - Julie Keating

bers of migratory waders and are all under threat of development. So much time is being taken up by so many people lobbying the various levels of government to try and halt the destruction of our wader homes. The Fed-

eral government has little time for 'greenies'. With the economy sinking into recession, their focus is on jobs, jobs, jobs; at any cost. Please pray we in Australia can, somehow, stop this wholesale destruction of the world's waders.



Far Eastern Curlew - Julie Keating

Waderologist's A-Z: A is for... — Rick Simpson

We do not claim that this is an exhaustive list of items, indeed many of you may well know of others. Any suggestions or corrections would be gratefully received with a view to creating a more comprehensive list to be published on the website in due course; including more words and names from other languages.

Gr. Greek; L. Latin (Med. L. Medieval Latin; Mod. L. Modern Latin).

Abandonment: One of the causes of nest failure where parent birds abandon their nest. Some species are more sensitive than others on their nesting grounds and a variety of reasons can cause a nest to be abandoned. Many things from natural disasters such as flooding, to the death of one of the parents or, in some really sensitive species, the mere presence of a threat or prolonged exposure to a threat can be the cause. Abandonment is more likely with eggs, especially in the early stages, as second clutches can be laid. Once the chicks have hatched the investment in time and energy makes abandonment less likely and if it does occur, second clutches are also less likely.

Aberrant plumage: Unusually plumaged waders are often encountered, especially those with white feathers among the normal ones. The amount of white varies enormously from a few scattered feathers to the whole bird. This is usually not caused by albinism but by one of the forms of leucism and does not seem to adversely affect the survival of the individual, some birds being seen for many years. Conversely fewer birds are seen with dark or black feathers out of place, however in Common Snipes *Gallinago gallinago* there is a form of plumage which is known as Sabines Snipe of which there were so many examples that it was once thought that they constituted a separate species. It was once also thought that the Black Stilts *Himantopus novaezelandiae* in New Zealand were a black morph of the White-headed Stilt *Himantopus leucocephalus* and recently it has been proposed that the Canarian Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus meadewoldi* was no more than

a morph of Eurasian Oystercatcher *H. ostralegus* and not, as was previously believed, a full species in its own right.

Abductor muscle: Mussels, a favoured food of Oystercatchers *Haematopus*, use a strong muscle called the abductor to close their shells. In shallow water the creature relaxes that muscle allowing the two halves of the shell to come apart. This allows the mussel to filter feed. Oystercatchers use their powerful bills to stab into the mussel and sever the abductor muscle so that the shellfish are unable to close their shells. Other individuals will attack a closed mussel breaking into the shell and severing the abductor muscle so the shell falls open to expose their soft contents. The muscle in some shellfish is so strong that it has caused the death of the attacking birds when they clamp shut and the bird is unable to pull its bill free, resulting in drowning as the tide comes in and covers the shellfish bed.

Aberdeen Sandpiper: Old alternative name for Red Knot *Calidris canutus*.

Abrasion: A bird can change its outward appearance in two ways, by moult and by feather abrasion. Feathers, particularly those of the wing and tail, are subject to wear making it necessary for birds to replace them periodically. It has been established that dark, melanin loaded feathers wear less quickly than light colours with less melanin. This is offered as an explanation for the fact that many white winged birds have dark tips to their wings, for example the Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*.



Pied Avocet - Elis Simpson

Where individual feathers have lighter tips, these can wear away quite quickly and can change the appearance of a bird without it going through a feather moult, as in the case of the Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*. New feathers on the breast and belly are light tipped and give the bird a scal-

loped appearance against the rufous ground colour when they are fresh. However, as the tips wear away the bird becomes a deeper, more even brick red colour across its body.

Abundant: A recognised estimation of bird populations where the bird is extremely common occurring in large numbers. Being abundant does not however afford your species any sort of protection from extinction as can be witnessed with the once abundant, but now probably extinct Eskimo Curlew *Numenius borealis*.

Actites: Gr. *aktites* coast dweller (*akte* coast). Synonym for *Limosa*.

actites: Gr. *aktites* coast dweller (*akte* coast). Subspecies of Dunlin *Calidris alpina actites* Nechaev & Tomkovich 1988.

Actitis: Gr. *aktites* coast dweller (*akte* coast). Generic scientific name of two closely related species of sandpiper, Illiger 1811; the American Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* Linnaeus 1766; and the Palearctic Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* Linnaeus 1758.

Actodromus: Gr, *akte* seashore; *dromas* running, roaming. Synonym for *Calidris*.

Actophilornis: Gr. *akte* riverbank, coastal strand; *philus* -loving (*phileo* to love) -*ornis* bird. From synonym *Actophilus*. Generic scientific name of two species of jacana, both in the African region, Olberholser 1899; *Actophilornis africana* Gmelin 1789; *Actophilornis albinucha* I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire 1832.

Actophilus: Gr. *akte* riverbank, coastal strand; *philus* -loving (*phileo* to love) Olberholser 1899, synonym for *Actophilornis*.

acuminata: L. *acuminatus* pointed (*acuere* to sharpen to a point). Specific name for Sharpe-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* Horsfield 1821.

Adventure Lit Their Star: Fictional story of a Pioneering pair of Little Ringed Plovers *Charadrius dubius* nesting on a London gravel pit and reservoir by Kenneth Allsop.



British bred Little Ringed Plover chick
- Elis Simpson

Aechmorhynchus: Gr. *aikhme* spear; *rhynchus* bill. A disused genus of two described taxa of Pacific sandpiper. Now considered synonym for *Prosobonia* (Tuamotu Sandpiper *P. parvirostris*, Christmas Sandpiper *P. cancel-*



Aberrant Eurasian Curlew, Walney Island, UK
- Elis Simpson

Waderologist's A-Z: A is for... — cont'd

latus, Moorea Sandpiper *P. ellisi* & White-winged Sandpiper *P. leucoptera*). Also formerly used for Diademed Sandpiper-Plover.

Aegialeus: Gr. *aigialeios* inhabitant of the seashore. Old generic name for plovers synonymous with *Charadrius*.

Aegialitis: Gr. *aigialitis* frequenting the shore (*aigialos* beach, seashore). Old generic name for plovers synonymous with *Charadrius*.

Aegialodes: Gr. *aigialodes* frequenting the shore. Old generic name for sandpipers synonymous with *Tringa*.

Aegialophilus: Gr. *aigialos* beach *philos* loving. Old generic name for the plovers synonymous with *Charadrius*.

aegyptius: L. *aegyptius* Egyptian. Specific name for the Egyptian Plover *Pluvianus aegyptius* Linnaeus 1758.

Ae'O: Hawaiian name for the Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* meaning 'one standing tall'.

aequatorialis: Late L. *aequatorialis* equatorial (*aequator* equator which comes from *aequare* to make equal). Subspecies of African Snipe *Gallinago nigripennis aequatorialis* Rüppell 1845.

Aerial display: A number of waders partake in aerial displays to establish territory and attract mates. Obvious examples are the Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* with its exuberant twisting springtime flight, the roding of Eurasian Woodcocks *Scolopax rustica* over woodland and the bleating of some snipes *Gallinago*, which add sound to their flights by vibrating their outer tail feathers in a dive from a great height.

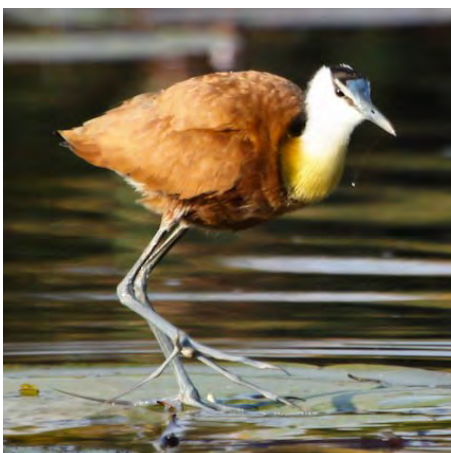


Northern Lapwing in display flight
- Gary Waddington

Afforestation: a change of land use where trees are planted, usually as a crop of some kind replacing a different habitat. Forests are not generally good habitat for waders overall, so in some cases waders will be displaced by such activity, such as in the savannas of Africa.

African: Pertaining to the continent of Africa and its adjacent islands. Used as a specific identifier in wader names from that continent; African (Black) Oystercatcher *Haematopus moquini*; African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus*; African Snipe *Gallinago nigripennis*; African Buttonquail (Hottentot Buttonquail).

africanus: L. *Africanus* African. Specific scientific name of African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* Gmelin 1789; species and nominate subspecies of Double-banded Courser *Rhinoptilus africanus africanus* Temminck 1807.



African Jacana - Elis Simpson

age: Oldest known wader is a Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* in Europe that was killed by a raptor at the age of forty-three years, four months. A Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* has been recorded at thirty-two years and seven months, a Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* at thirty-three years, eleven months and thirteen days. A few species reach their twenties, mainly the larger, more robust species such as Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*, Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* and Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*. But some smaller ones have lived surprisingly long lives. A Red Knot *Calidris canutus* has been recorded at twenty-seven years, three months and twenty-nine days and a Dunlin *Calidris alpina* reached an amazing twenty-eight years, ten months, a very long span for such a small migrant bird living in such hazardous circumstances.

Aggregation: A gathering of individual birds often given the collective noun of 'flock' to describe them. In the case of an unidentified or mixed group of waders engaged in aerial acrobatics similar to a 'murmuration' in European Starlings *Sturnus vulgaris* 'an inspiration' has been suggested by Wader Quest due to the enormous amount of inspiration waders have brought to human culture (See

An Inspiration of Waders). Some specific examples of collective nouns among wader species are; a pack of knots (usually Red Knot *Calidris canutus*); an orchestra of avocets *Recurvirostra*; an omniscience of godwits *Limosa*; a congregation of plovers *Charadriidae*; a fling of Dunlins *Calidris alpina*; and walk or wisp of snipe *Gallinago*. There are many more.

Aggression: Aggression is shown by many wader species, both intraspecific as in the case of Ruff or inter specific as in the case of Avocets defending their nests and chicks. Some species of Lapwing *Vanellinae* and jacanas *Jacanae* are equipped with spurs and bony structures in the wing for use in combat. Some species will attack predators as individuals and others that breed in colonies, will often co-operate to drive away such threats even when the threat does not immediately affect their own offspring or territory.

Agnew L.: Co Author with Geering A. & Harding S; *Shorebirds of Australia* 2007

Agriculture: Mans use of land for producing food. This use can sometimes be an advantage to waders where land provides suitable habitat as in some traditional farming methods. However modern agriculture tends not to favour wildlife and changes to practices in the last 30 years have had a detrimental effect on many farmland wader species. One species that has benefitted from a change of land use from forest to agricultural is the Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* in South America where it has spread into deforested areas across the continent.

Agrippa, Cornelius: A 16th Century philosopher who afforded the Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* royal status as it wore a crown on its head.

Aidhircleog: In Celtic language the name for the Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*. In Ogham script A is for Aidhircleog symbolised by a cross.

aigneri: After M. Aigner German taxidermist at Munich Museum (flourished 1913). Subspecies of Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus aigneri* Laubman 1913.



Red-wattled Lapwing - Elis Simpson

Waderologist's A-Z: A is for... — cont'd

'Akekeke: Hawaiian name for the Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*, a bird thought to be a messenger of the gods.

Alarmbird also Alarm-bird: Old and local name for Masked and Black-shouldered Lapwings *Vanellus miles* & *V. novaehollandiae*.



Masked Lapwing - Elis Simpson

alba: L. *albus* white, dull white. Specific scientific name for Sanderling *Calidris alba* Pallas 1764; Snowy Sheathbill *Chionis alba* Gmelin 1789.

albiceps: L. *albus* white; *-ceps* -headed (*caput* head). Specific scientific name for White-headed Lapwing *Vanellus albiceps* Gould 1834.



White-headed Lapwing - Elis Simpson

albinucha: L. *albus* = white; Med. L. *nucha* meaning nape (derived from the Arabic word for spinal marrow; *nukha*). Specific scientific name for Madagascar Jacana *Actophilornis albinucha* I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire 1832

Alexander W. B: Author of *The Woodcock in the British Isles* 1935(?)

alexandrinus: L. Alexandrinus of Alexandria, Egypt. Specific scientific name for Kentish Plover and nominate subspecies *Charadrius alexandrinus alexandrinus* Linnaeus 1758

Allsop, Kenneth: Author of the fictional story

of pioneer Little Ringed Plovers nesting in London; *Adventure lit their star* (which see).

alpina: L. *alpinus* alpine, of high mountains (*alpes* high mountains). Specific and nominate subspecies scientific name of Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina* Linnaeus 1758.

Alternate plumage: Alternate plumage (breeding plumage) is acquired after the pre-alternate moult, usually a partial moult replacing only body feathers, but not the wings and tail. Usually it is a brighter plumage than the basic (non-breeding) plumage but, in some species, there is little difference between the two.

alticola: L. *altus* high; *-cola* dweller (*colere* to dwell). Specific scientific name for Puna Plover *Charadrius alticola* Berlepsch & Stolzmann 1902.

altifrons: L. *altus* high; *frons* forehead, front. Subspecies of European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria altifrons* C. L. Brehm 1831.

Altricial: A form of nurturing where the offspring are born or hatch helpless and often blind and are fully dependent on their parents for food and shelter. Few waders are fully altricial however the Crab Plover, unique among waders in so many ways, produces a single defenceless chick from an egg laid in a tunnel fabricated by the adult birds, which needs to be fed or it will starve. Oystercatchers *Haematopus* too feed their young after hatching for a while and Magellanic Plovers *Pluvianellus socialis*, carry and regurgitate food for their young from the crop. Pratincoles *Glareola* also regurgitate food for the young up to around 7 days and also provide food caught in the beak.

Aleutian Sandpiper: Alternative name for Rock Sandpiper *Calidris ptilocnemis*.



Rock Sandpiper - Elis Simpson

Amadan-Mòintich: Gaelic name for the Eurasian Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus* meaning 'peat-bog fool' reflecting its perceived stupidity and habitat preferences.

Amami: An archipelago in Japan. Specific name for Amami Woodcock *Scolopax mira*.

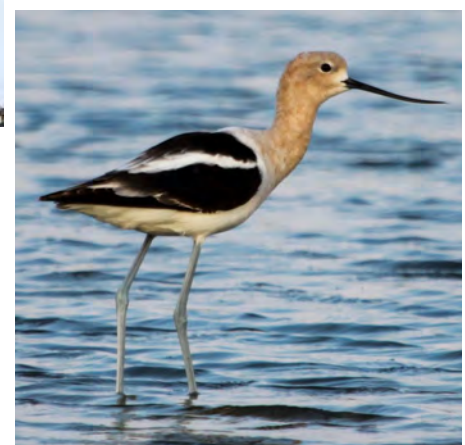
Amber List: One of three categories into which birds are placed in the UK according to the threat level to the species. The Red List is the highest conservation priority, with spe-

cies needing urgent action; the Amber List is the next most critical group and the Green List where species are the least critical group. Amber listed waders are; Eurasian Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus*; Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*; Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*; Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*; Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*; Red Knot *Calidris canutus*; Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*; Sanderling *Calidris alba*; Dunlin *Calidris alpina*; Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*; Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*; Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*; Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*; Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*; Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glaeola*; Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*; Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*.



Dunlin - Elis Simpson

American: Specific name for American (Northern) Jacana *Jacana spinosa*; (American) Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus bachmani*; American (Pied) Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus*; American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana*; American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*; American Ringed (Semipalmated) Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus*; American Grey-rumped Sandpiper = American Tattler (Wandering Tattler) *Heter-*



American Avocet - Elis Simpson

Waderologist's A-Z: A is for... — cont'd

oscelus incanus; American Woodcock *Scolopax minor*; American Snipe (Wilson's Snipe) *Gallinago delicata*; American Stint (Least Sandpiper) *Calidris minutilla*; (American) Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melontos*; American (Snowy) Sheathbill *Chionis alba*.

americana: Mod. L. American. Specific scientific name for American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana* Gmelin 1789.

americanus: Mod. L. American. Specific scientific name for Long-billed Curlew *Numenius americanus* Bechstein 1812.

Amphipod: A type of crustacean that is associated with moist habitats the majority of which are water born and therefore make up part of many waders' diet. There are almost as many Amphipod species as bird species. Includes freshwater shrimps and sandhoppers.

Anarhynchus: Gr. *ana* backwards *rhunkhos* bill. Genus of Wrybill, Quoy & Gaimard 1830. *Anarhynchus frontalis* Quoy & Gaimard 1830.



Wrybill - Elis Simpson

Andalusian Hemipode: Old alternative name for Common Buttonquail *Turnix sylvaticus*. It is the most recent bird to be declared extinct as a breeding bird in Europe in 2018. It has however recently been rediscovered in Algeria when a bird was shot by hunters in 2019.

Andean: Pertaining to the Andes mountain range. Andean Avocet *Recurvirostra andina*; Andean Snipe *Gallinago jamesoni*; Andean Lapwing *Vanellus resplendens*.

andina: Mod. L. *Andinus* Andean, of the Andes (*Andium* Andes). Specific scientific name of Andean Avocet *Recurvirostra andina* Philippi & Landbeck 1861; Puna Snipe *Gallinago andina* Taczanowski, 1875 - formerly considered a subspecies of South American Snipe *G. paraguayae andina*.

an inspiration: Suggested collective noun for a mixed or unidentified flock of waders per-

forming aerial acrobatics similar to the more familiar murmuration of starlings (Usually European *Sturnus vulgaris*). This suggestion was made in the book *An Inspiration of Waders*.



An Inspiration of waders at Snettisham, Norfolk UK - Elis Simpson

angolae: Angola. Putative subspecies of Egyptian Plover *Pluvianus aegypticus* Linnaeus 1758.

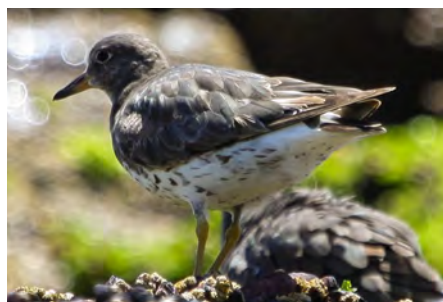
angolensis: Angola. Subspecies of African Snipe *Gallinago nigripennis angolensis* Boscage 1868.

An Inspiration of Waders: A fundraising book published by Wader Quest Publishing and written by Rick and Elis Simpson with a foreword by Keith Betton, available through Wader Quest in which the authors describe how waders have inspired people, the arts, myths and legends throughout our history. The book includes some surprising miscellaneous inspirational references from Christopher Columbus, through the Easter Bunny to the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

Ankle: Name of part the leg between the tibia and the tarsus which is often erroneously referred to as the knee joint, for example; Thick-knee *Burhinus/Esacus* or Red-kneed Dotterel *Erthrogonyx cinctus*.

Antaposematic: Pertaining to the colouration or display of a bird used as a threat to subjugate rivals, specifically those of the same sex and species. Ruffs *Calidris pugnax* being a good example of both use of colouration and display when lekking.

Aphriza: Gr. *aphros* sea foam; *zao*, *zoo*, *zo* to live. Generic scientific name for Surfbird *Aphriza virgata* Gmelin 1789.



Surfbird - Elis Simpson

apricaria: L. *apricari* to bask in the sun. Specific and nominate subspecific scientific name for European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* Linnaeus 1758.

Arctic: The polar region at the northernmost part of Earth and the nesting grounds of many long-distance migrant waders, particularly plovers and sandpipers.

Arctic Ringed Plover: Old common name for Common Ringed Plover of the *tundrae* race.

arctica: L. *arcticus* northern, arctic. Subspecies of Dunlin *Calidris alpina arctica* Schiøler 1922.

arcticola: L. *arcticus* northern, arctic; *-cola* - dweller (*colere* to dwell). Subspecies of Dunlin *Calidris alpina arcticola* Todd 1953.

ardeola: L. *ardeola* little heron (diminutive form of *ardea* heron). Specific, scientific species of Crab Plover *Dromas ardeola* Paykull 1805.

arenaceus: L. *arenaceus* sandy. (*arena* sand). Subspecies of White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus arenaceus*. Clancy 1971.

Arenaria: L. *arenarius* relating to sand (*arena* sand). Genus of the two Turnstones Brisson 1760; Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* Linnaeus 1758; Black Turnstone *Arenaria melanocephala* Vigors 1829.



Black Turnstone - Elis Simpson

arenaria: L. *arenarius* relating to sand (*arena* sand). Old specific scientific name for Sanderling *Calidris* = *Tringa arenaria* Linnaeus 1766.

Arenariinae: a subfamily of *Scolopacidae* including Turnstones and Sandpipers.

armatus: L. *armatus* armed (*arma* weapons). Specific scientific name for Blacksmith Lapwing *Vanellus armatus* Burchell 1822.

Armstrong's Sandpiper: Old alternative name for Nordmann's Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*. Named after Frank Bradley Armstrong a Canadian ornithologist and taxidermist.

Arnold E. C.: Author of *British Waders* 1924

arquata: L. *arquatus* bow-shaped curved. Possibly from *arquatus* meaning jaundice sufferer. Specific scientific name of Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* Linnaeus 1758.

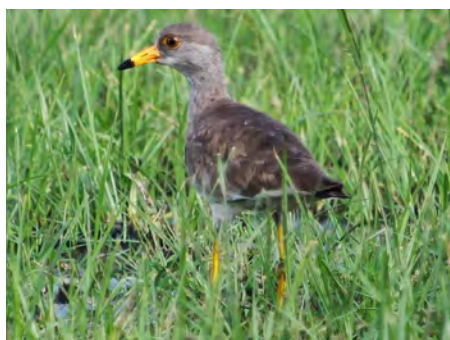
Arthropod: Invertebrate animals with jointed

Waderologist's A-Z: A is for... — cont'd

legs, segmented bodies and chitinous exoskeletons. includes the crustaceans (e.g. lobsters and crabs), the myriapods (e.g. millipedes and centipedes) insects (e.g. mosquitoes, fleas and lice) and arachnids (e.g. mites, ticks and spiders). Many of which form part of the food intake of waders in any habitat in which they can be found.

Ash-coloured Sandpiper: Old alternative name for Red Knot *Calidris canutus*.

Ashy-grey Lapwing: Old alternative name for Grey-headed Lapwing.



Grey-headed Lapwing - Elis Simpson

Asian: Pertaining to the continent of Asia and its adjacent islands. Used as a specific identifier in wader names from that continent; Asian Spur-winged Plover/Lapwing (River Lapwing) *Vanellus duvaucelii*; Asian (Pacific) Golden Plover *Pluvianus fulva*; Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*.

Asiatic: Relating to or deriving from Asia. Asiatic (Pacific) Golden Plover *Pluvianus fulva*; Asiatic (Asian) Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*; Asiatic Pectoral Sandpiper (Sharp-tailed Sandpiper) *Calidris acuminata*.

asiaticus: L. *asiaticus* Asiatic. Specific scientific name for Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus* Pallas 1773

astutus: L. *astutus* shrewd or cunning. A subspecific name for Eurasian Stone-Curlews in Afghanistan and Persian Gulf. Not widely recognised and subsumed in *saharae*.

ater: L. black, dark, dull black. Specific scientific name of Blackish Oystercatcher *Haematopus ater* Vieillot & Oudart 1825.

Athena: Ancient Greek Goddess who in the legend of Daedalus and Talos, is supposed to have caught the latter (when the former threw him from the wall of the Acropolis) and turned him into a Lapwing. (Some versions prefer a Partridge.)

Atlantic Americas Flyway: One of nine major flyways in the world used for migration by numerous waders. The A.A.F. includes the eastern Canadian Arctic Archipelago in the north and the entire eastern coastal region of North, Central and South America including the Caribbean Islands, to the southernmost tip in Tierra del Fuego.

atrifrons: L. *ater* black; *frons* forehead. Subspecies of Lesser Sandplover *Charadrius mongolus atrifrons* Wagler 1829.

atrogularis: L. *ater* black; Mod. L. *gularis* - throated (derived from *gula* throat). Subspecies of Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator atrogularis* Eyton 1839.

Attagis: Genus for two species of Seedsnipe, I Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire & Lesson 1831; Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe *Attagis gayi* I Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire & Lesson 1831; White-bellied Seedsnipe *Attagis malouinus* Boddaert 1783.

Auckland: Auckland (Subantarctic) Snipe: *Gallinago aucklandica*.

aucklandica: Specific scientific name for Auckland Subantarctic Snipe *Gallinago aucklandica* G. R. Gray 1845.

Audubon: John James Audubon named American Black Oystercatcher after his friend Revd John Bachman *Haematopus bachmani* Audubon 1838.

Australian: Pertaining to Australia and its adjacent islands. Used as a specific identifier in wader names from that country; Australian Dikkop (Bush Thick-knee) *Burhinus grallarius*; Australian Long-billed Plover = Australian Stone Plover (Beach Thick-knee) *Esacus giganteus*; Australian rhynchaea = Australian Painted-Snipe *Rostratula australis*; (Australian) Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*; Australian Courser (Australian Pratincole) *Stiltia isabella*; Australian (Red-necked) Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*; Australian Spur-winged Plover (Masked & Black-shouldered Lapwing) *Vanellus miles* & *V. novaehollandiae*; Australian (Pacific) Golden Plover *Pluvianus fulva*; Australian (Inland) Dotterel *Charadrius australis*; Australian (Latham's) Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*; Aus-



Australian Pratincole - Elis Simpson

tralian (Far Eastern) Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*; (Australian) Little Buttonquail *Turnix velox*.

australis: L. *australis* southern (*auster* south). Specific scientific name of Australian Painted-Snipe *Rostratula australis* Gould 1838 formerly subspecies of Greater Painted-Snipe *R. benghalensis australis*. Gould 1838.

Avian botulism: a paralytic disease that

affects wild and captive bird populations, most notably waterfowl, often seen in waders.

Avistilt: Aka. Stavocet; hybrid offspring from American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana* and Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* pairing.

Avocet: Four species of the genus *Recurvirostra*. American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana* (North America); Andean Avocet *R. andina* (South America); Pied Avocet *R. avosetta* (Eurasia/Africa); Red-necked Avocet *R. no-*



Andean Avocet - Elis Simpson

vaehollandiae (Australia).

Awlbill: Local common name for Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*. Also, Cobbler's-awl, from its likeness to the tool.

A.W.S.G: Australian Wader Study Group.



Axillars/Axillaries: L. *axilla* armpit. Small bunch of distinct feathers in a fanwise arrangement under the wing at a position corresponding to the armpit. In some species, such as Curlews *Numenius*, they can be very long and, in some species, they can be used as an identification feature. The most commonly known example being the Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* where they are black, distinguishing them from all other *Pluvialis* plovers.

Azara: Brigadier-General Félix Manuel de Azara (1742-1821). Azara's (Collared) Plover *Charadrius collaris*.



Collared Plover - Elis Simpson

Waders in poetry - a limerick by Rick Simpson (just for fun)

Canute's bird, the so called Red Knot,
Seldom remains in one spot.
Come calm or come gale,
Each year without fail,
It travels a heck of a lot.

Once fledged, the chicks set off on their flight
To the south, in the dead of the night.
They stop once or twice,
In some cases, thrice,
'Til they get to a spot that's just right.

So, to where do these little birds fly?
To the ends of the earth, I'll not lie.
They tarry a while,
Then mile after mile,
They wing it back, filling the sky.

On their way north in the spring
They do an extraordinary thing,
They stop in a bay,
Where crabs eggs do lay,
Then to the arctic they wing.

A Sanderling's ever so white.
To the wave wash it sticks very tight.
And everyone knows,
They've only three toes.
But it doesn't affect them in flight.

This format makes them run fast,
Ignoring the sand's stinging blast.
At great speed they run,
And appear to have fun,
In search of a tasty repast.

Among waders, the Curlew is king.
For a wader it is a big thing,
With a young-moon shaped bill,
From whence comes its trill,
A sound to make your heart sing.

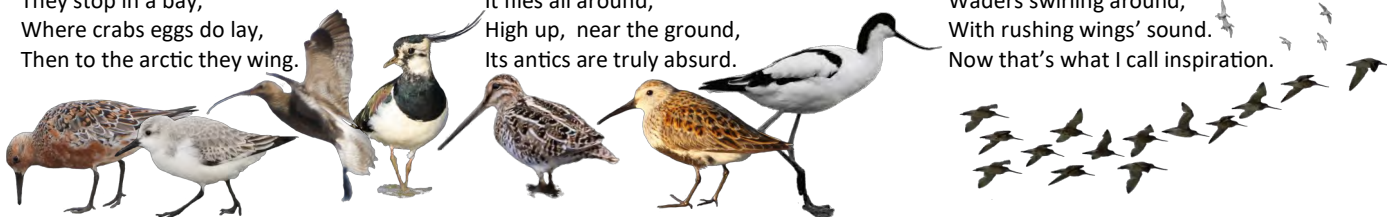
The Lapwing's a funny old bird.
In springtime its warbles are heard,
It flies all around,
High up, near the ground,
Its antics are truly absurd.

Then there's the diminutive snipe
About which there's been so much hype
Its dramatic display,
Early on in the day,
Sounds like wind, blowing over a pipe.

The poor Dunlin, it has a dull name,
Its appearance though isn't the same.
In summer it's best,
With its natty black vest,
Defying the namer's false claim.

The Avocet's daintily sleek
With a wonderful awl-shaped beak
Its black and white hue
And legs pastel blue
Make it a wader *trés chic*.

On the estuaries of our great nation,
There's a happening that defies explanation.
Waders swirling around,
With rushing wings' sound.
Now that's what I call inspiration.



From the library - British Birds in their Haunts, 12th Edition ; Rev. C. A. Johns Edited by J. A. Owen (1938)

THE RUFF AND REEVE MACHETES PUGNAX

BOTH the systematic names of this bird are descriptive of its quarrelsome propensities: *machetes* is Greek for 'a warrior', *pugnax* Latin for 'pugnacious'. Well is the title deserved; for Ruffs do not merely fight when they meet, but meet in order to fight. The season for the indulgence of their warlike tastes is spring; the scene, a rising spot of ground contiguous to a marsh; and here all the male birds of the district assemble at dawn, for many days in succession, and do battle valiantly for the females, called Reeves, till the weakest are vanquished and leave possession of the field to their more powerful adversaries. The attitude during these contests is nearly that of the domestic cock- the head lowered, the body horizontal, the collar bristling, and the beak extended. But Ruffs will fight to the death on other occasions. A basket containing two or three hundred Ruffs was once put on board a steamer leaving Rotterdam for London. The incessant fighting of the birds proved a grand source of attraction to the passengers during the voyage; and about half of them were slain before the vessel reached London.



Featured Wader: Diademed Sandpiper-Plover *Phegornis mitchellii*

— Rick and Elis Simpson

Alternative names: Chilean Sandpiper, Diademed Plover, Mitchell's Plover, Mitchell's Slenderfoot, *Chorlo Cordillerano* (Spanish, local, Peru), *Chorlito Cordillerano* (Spanish, local, Chile), *Chorlito de Vincha* (Spanish, local, Argentina), *Charlito de Ciénagas* (Spanish), *Pluvier des Andes* (French), *Banderregenpfeifer/Diademregenpfeifer* (German).

Scientific name: *Phegornis mitchellii* (Gray 1846) – *Phegornis*: Greek *phengos* = light, splendour, *ornis*: bird. *mitchellii*: after David William Mitchell (1813-1859), English Zoologist and secretary of the Zoological Society of London 1847-1859.

The Diademed Sandpiper-Plover was first described from Chile by Fraser in 1845 as *Leptopus* (Fraser 1815) – Greek *leptos* = delicate, slender, *pous* = foot *Mitchellii* – formerly upper case was used when people's names were used as specific names. In 1846 G.R. Gray described the genus *Phegornis* for the species and the bird's scientific name became *Phegornis mitchellii* which is the name still in use today.

Synonyms for *Phegornis*: *Leptopus* (see above); *Leptodactylus* (Fitz 1826) – Greek *daktulos* = toe; *Leptoscelis* (Hahday 1833) – Greek *skelos* leg; *Prosobonia* (Seeborn lumped Diademed Sandpiper-Plovers into *Phegornis* with the Pacific Island sandpipers of this genus.) (Bonaparte 1850) with no explanation ; *Aechmorhynchus* (Coues 1874) Greek *aikhme* spear; *rhunkhos* bill.

Subspecies: None – Monotypic

Taxonomy: Uncertain. Is it a sandpiper or a plover? Possibly related to Australian plovers



Diademed Sandpiper-Plover - Elis Simpson

of which the Shore Plover *Thinornis novaeseelandiae* is most similar. Currently part of *Charadriidae*.

Distribution: South America: Andes mountain range from Peru through Bolivia south to south-central Chile and Argentina.

Habitat preference: Alpine Puna where it prefers mossy tundra, waterlogged grassland, bogs and swamps with matted cushion plant vegetation, gravel or grass on river valley plains and lake shores.

Breeding: Austral summer from October to December (Chile), January (Bolivia). Low density, in isolated pairs. Territorial and mating rituals undescribed. Two eggs, olive-grey with black spots. Nest a circle of grasses. Downy chicks are dark brown, marbled with black above and lighter below.

Migration: Altitudinal migrant. Breeds between 3,500–5,000 m (11,500–16,400 ft) above sea-level; in southern parts of range they descend in March wintering down to 2,000 m (6,600 ft) but in the north rarely below 3,300 m (10,800ft). Not gregarious even on wintering grounds with groups seldom bigger the half a dozen reported. Returns to higher altitude in October. Possible northerly movement in Austral autumn and return in Austral Spring.

Conservation status: IUCN: Near Threatened. Population size unknown but estimated to be

1,500-7,000 mature individuals and decreasing. Rare but widespread. Remoteness of habitat suggests it may be secure, however if climate change affects the mountains (we have seen other bird species ranges changing altitudinally), then the small amount of habitat that is available to this species may disappear altogether.

Threats: Climate change, livestock ranching and farming, roads and railways, recreational activities, dams and water management.

Vital statistics: Length 16.5–20.5 cm (6.49–8.07 in) Wing 13.9–14.5 cm (5.47– 5.70 in) Bill 1.6–1.8 cm (0.62–0.70 in) Tarsus 2.5–2.7 cm (0.98–1.06 in) Weight 28–46 g (0.99–1.62 oz) Eggs 3.4 x 2.5 cm est. 11.7g.

Habits: Approachable, relying on its diminutive size, disruptive camouflage and quiet sedate habits. Often skulks in depressions and gullies in the ground. Unusually among waders the flight of the Diademed Sandpiper-Plover is fluttery and undulating which has been said to recall a Painted-Snipe *Rostratula* sp. and also a Hoopoe *Upapa epops*, with its short, rounded wings and short tail. It holds its wings stiffly and slightly below horizontal for the most part with its head held upright. Teeters like Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*.

Food: Probably insects gleaned from the surface of water, substrate and aquatic plants.



Diademed Sandpiper-Plover - Elis Simpson

Featured Wader: Diademed Sandpiper-Plover *Phegornis mitchellii* — cont'd



High Andes Puna; Diademed Sandpiper-Plover breeding habitat - Elis Simpson

Also probes with bill held vertically.

Plumage: Sexes similar but females tend to be duller, no seasonal variation. Juveniles lack the blackish head with white 'tiara' and chestnut collar that is so distinctive in adults and has a mottled brown appearance to upperparts and little barring below. After post juvenile moult only differs from adults with retained inner coverts and worn primaries.

Bare parts: Bill long (for a plover) and subtly drooping at the tip resembling a Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. Legs yellow.

Voice: Generally silent but distinctive, penetrating plover-like whistle sometimes uttered as is a lower pitched more plaintive whistle and soft contact notes reported.

Current conservation efforts: None found.

Current research projects: Geolocator tagged birds currently being studied to ascertain movements, if any, in Chile.

Curiosities: This species is depicted on a Wader Quest Collectables pin badge. It was the first badge we created. (Available from the Wader Quest shop.)

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Diademed Sandpiper-Plover - Ronald Messemaker



Pivot Fields, UAE; in search of Lapwings — Rick and Elis Simpson

There were many, now familiar, Red-wattled Lapwings *Vanellus indicus* spread across the grassy and cultivated areas of the fields, with one or two juvenile/1st winter birds in among them. We noted straight away that these birds were slightly different to those we had seen in Thailand. The white cheek-patch that the Thai birds displayed was in the case of the birds before us attached, unbroken, to the white on the sides of the neck and belly in a continuous stripe. They still made the same amusing calls as we approached them; it was just their outward appearance that was in variance with those that we had encountered in Thailand.

But, as lovely and amusing as these Lapwings are, they were not the reason we were there. We were in search of two other lapwing species; one was a bird which I had long desired to see and the other a bird that I had previously seen, several times, in the UK but which was now Critically Endangered and not easy to see anywhere anymore.

I started to scan the fields. As I did so I came across a curious looking pair of bright yellow sticks poking out of the ground, I didn't dwell upon them but passed on quickly. Doing so, I found another pair of sticks. I wondered for what purpose they had been placed in the ground and vaguely thought about trying to find out later, then I came across another pair. This time, as I was looking at them, they suddenly started to walk. It turns out that these bright yellow sticks were, in fact, the legs of a White-tailed Lapwing *Vanellus leucurus*. The plumage of these birds is so well adapted to their surroundings it all but rendered them invisible, apart from those ludicrously bright

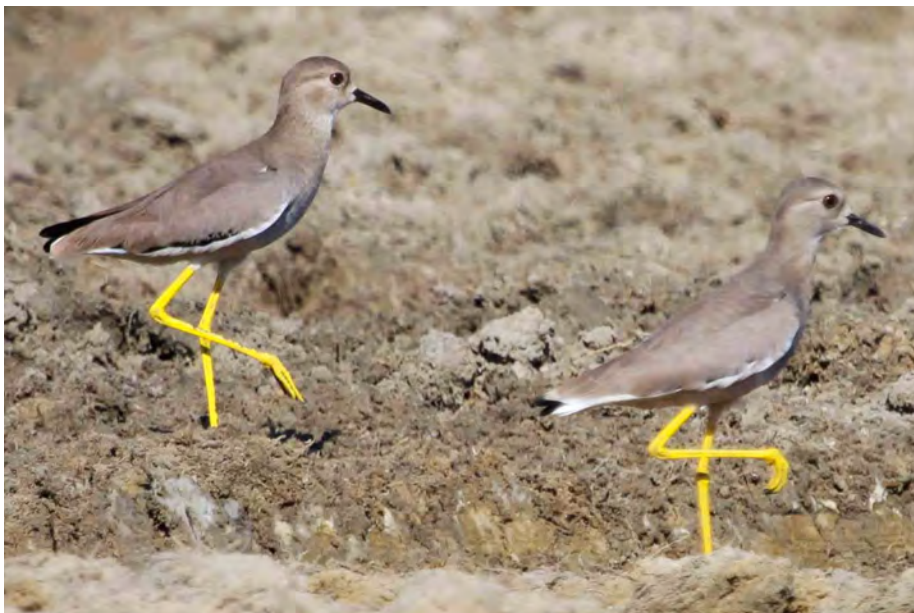


Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus aigneri* Pivot Fields, UAE and below Red-wattled Lapwing *V. i. atronuchalis* Lam Pak Bia, Thailand - Elis Simpson

yellow legs that could be seen from outer space! It begs the question... why? Why has this bird evolved to meld into the background in one way and yet stand out like a sore thumb in another? I suppose that an active, fit, adult bird has little to fear from ground predators, the ability to fly rendering it inaccessible and aerial predators, looking down, might not be able to see the legs from above in any case. Perhaps the time when a bird is most vulnerable though is when it is incubating eggs. In this period of its annual cycle, not only is its own life on the line, but also the lives of its offspring are equally at



risk. However, during these perilous moments, those luminous yellow legs would be hidden from sight as the bird sat tight on the ground rendering their bright attention-seeking looks immaterial. Alternatively, I thought, as I cogitated upon this conundrum later, since I had mistaken the legs for sticks, maybe a predator would too. The legs would draw the would-be assassin's attention and hopefully it wouldn't notice the plump, edible bird mounted on top of them. Whatever the reason, I was overjoyed to see them, once I'd recovered from the fact that I'd seen three before I realised it. Elis was chuckling to herself and muttered something along the lines of 'some birder you turned out to be'. In all there were twenty-six of them, that's fifty-two yellow sticks, difficult to miss really, you'd have thought. We watched these birds for a while and enjoyed the scene immensely. Here too were other, smaller, plovers; Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* was the first to be identified and then



Bright yellow sticks walking; legs you can see from outer space - Elis Simpson

Pivot Fields, UAE; in search of Lapwings — cont'd



Little Ringed Plover - Elis Simpson

we came across a party of orange-legged Common Ringed Plovers *Charadrius hiaticula*. I remembered with delight and some satisfaction, that these were in fact Wader Quest list ticks as we had not seen any in the UK before leaving. There were also three Pacific Golden Plovers *Pluvialis fulva* and a couple of Temminck's Stints *Calidris temminckii* to add to the wader contingent.

But that was not the end of it, there was still the small matter of the other, Critically Endangered lapwing. Ahead of us we could see two other birders, one in a 4x4, the other on foot. They were, more or less, in the position that we had been told our quarry should be by our good friend Tommy Pedersen, albeit looking in the opposite direction to that indicated to us. We scanned the area at which they were looking and soon found our target, three Sociable Lapwings *Vanellus gregarius*. We had been told there were four birds in the area but, try as we might, we could not beat a score of three. These birds were a real priority for us to see; if we didn't see them in the UAE, where they are by no means a given as they are passage migrants, then it would have been very hard to catch up with them anywhere. This was a real bonus for our quest. I had seen three in the UK previously, my first in 1985, others in 1990 and 1991. Back then they were quite regular visitors to our shores. Since that time the species has fared very badly losing habitat across much of its range causing it to reach the point at which it has become Critically Endangered. Seeing them therefore was more than just lucky, it was a real treat.

We continued to bird the area and found many more White-tailed Lapwings, the final tally reaching forty-five individuals (that's ninety yellow sticks).

This is an excerpt from Rick and Elis' forthcoming book A Quest for Waders about their adventures travelling the world to see waders; due for release at Bird Fair 2020 -Ed.



Sociable Lapwing - Elis Simpson



Sociable Lapwings - Elis Simpson

Wader news from around the world in brief — Rick and Elis Simpson

Australia

Wild Fires

No doubt you are as appalled by the devastation being wrought upon Australia, Australian wildlife and the people who live there by the wild fires.

For the most part it is the forests that are burning so ferociously and as such are unlikely haunts for waders of any kind. But one species of wader could easily be directly affected by these fires and that is the Bush Thick-knee *Burhinus grallarius*. Not a bird of thick forest, but where trees are open plan with plenty of places to forage beneath them, there Bush Thick-knees can flourish. Of course as adult birds they can take to the wing to escape the raging inferno but the incredible winds have made the pace of the fire very rapid and a very quick get-away would be required. Unfledged chicks and eggs would have no escape.

Where grassland and low scrub are affected then spare a thought for the Inland Dotterel *Charadrius australis* and the various Buttonquails (seven species of *Turnix*) and the Plains Wanderer *Pedionomus torquatus*. Some Buttonquails prefer moist grasslands, while others favour woodlands and even forests and would certainly be affected by these fires, especially the Little Buttonquail *Turnix velox* whose habitat preference is described as 'dry to arid woodlands and grassland'.



Bush Thick-knee - Elis Simpson

However, it could be supposed that wetlands may escape, and those birds that live there are in little danger. That may be true of the danger from fire itself, but the vast amount of ash that is produced, and is descending on those wetlands, may clog them up and render them useless for foraging and possibly even toxic.

On the beaches again the birds would be expected to fare better, but again think about the time of year, breeding period for many species, and the scenes we saw of

entire communities taking to the beach to escape danger. What room would be left for the beach nesting birds there? There is also here the prospect of ash being washed up on the shore, possibly affecting the feeding and foraging of those birds that feed at the shoreline.

Once the fire has gone any survivors will find themselves in a barren landscape, with perhaps little prey surviving the fire. Added to which those creatures that like to keep themselves hidden will be vulnerable themselves to predation where the cover has been burned away.

So much of this is of course speculation, there is much to learn from this horrific event, as how fire affects waders is largely unstudied. But gathering useful data may prove difficult in the short term as much of the affected area is cordoned off and as I understand it some affected departments have cancelled research permits for the time being.

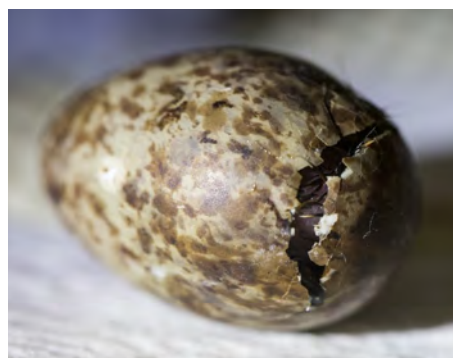
We wish all concerned with the further fighting of the fires and clear-up in the aftermath of this devastating event all the best.

UK / Russia

Spoon-billed Sandpiper update

At Slimbridge in the UK, the Spoon-billed Sandpiper captive breeding team finally had something to celebrate. Each year they have tried different tactics to get the Spoon-billed Sandpipers to breed. This year two birds have been fledged; the first ever successful captive breeding of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the world. A huge relief I'm sure to the team and to us all. They are all to be congratulated on their success.

Meanwhile the headstarting programme in Russia produced twenty-three fledged birds that were released back into the wild and twenty-six chicks from wild reared clutches were also ringed. Despite this success nest numbers were down on last year with only twelve found. Of those, eight were monitored and chicks hatched from only five



Spoon-billed Sandpiper egg hatching
- Ben Cherry WWT

of them. Predation is thought to have been by Northern Ravens *Corvus corax* and Arctic Ground Squirrels *Spermophilus parryii* which have been caught on camera traps predating other wader nests in the area.

One headstarted bird, carrying the flag lime green 07 made history in 2018 by indicating a new moulting area in North Korea and new wintering areas in Sumatra and Indonesia. This year he nested and his first clutch of four was taken for headstarting, the second, natural clutch, also of four, was a success with all four eggs hatching and the chicks ringed.

One factor that has come to light in the number of birds returning to breed is that at least nine Spoon-billed Sandpipers were observed to be over summering in China, having not made the return journey to breed in Russia.

New Zealand

Double-banded Plover / Banded Dotterel breeding disaster

A single domestic cat is thought to have been responsible for a disastrous breeding season in a Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus* colony in Wellington Harbour in Lower Hutt, New Zealand. It is thought that the same cat was responsible for not a single bird fledging last year at the same site. Cats account for a large number of losses throughout New Zealand each year.

This year just one chick fledged from fourteen nests and the adults, which appear not to have been predated, left the colony early despite many second and even third breeding attempts; typically three eggs are laid per nest.

Efforts to catch the cat, which has been caught many times on camera terrorising the colony, have so far failed.

The beach should now be covered in young plover chicks, but is empty. This is a very worrying sign and a dangerous situation for the species as a whole if such things do not improve. To quote from the marvellous documentary *Between Clouds and Dreams*; 'Death is a part of life. Extinction is quite another thing, it is the end of birth!'



Double-banded Plover - Elis Simpson

Curlew wintering habitat at Havant, Hampshire threatened by major development— Mike Smart / Curlew Forum

As reported at the Curlew Forum meeting in November 2019, and in the Curlew Forum Newsletter 8 (under 'Decrease in wintering Curlews on the south coast'), a planning application is currently with Havant Borough Council, Hampshire for a housing development at Campdown, Crookhorn / Bedhampton, Havant.

The proposed development would result in the loss of a considerable area of countryside used by up to 350 Brent Geese *Branta bernicla* and 150 Eurasian Curlews *Numenius arquata* feeding on wet pasture in recent winters and many more Brent in the recent past. 150 Curlews of the c.500 wintering in and around Langstone Harbour is a significant proportion of the harbour wintering population. Brent and Curlew feeding at Campdown return to the harbours at dusk each day to roost.

The Campdown proposed development site's importance is identified in the Solent Wader and Brent Goose Strategy as a core site, see: <https://solentwbgs.wordpress.com/page-2/>

The proposed mitigation site which is suggested to accommodate displaced Brent and Curlews is in fact Broadmarsh Coastal Park and is considered by Curlew specialists to be completely inadequate and unsuitable for use by feeding Curlews as none have been seen there before.

To study the planning application, read the comments, and make an objection yourself, enter the reference **APP/19/01101** in the search box at the bottom of this page and then press Search:

<https://planningpublicaccess.havant.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Comments must be added by 13 February 2020.

This is the RSPB response, which has been lodged as an objection:

[APP 19 01101-CONSULTEE RESPONSE - RSPB-1343348](#) (PDF)

This is the Hampshire Ornithological Society objection:

[20200120 Havant application Jan 20 HOS](#) (PDF).

This is the objection lodged by Peter Potts:

ter Potts:

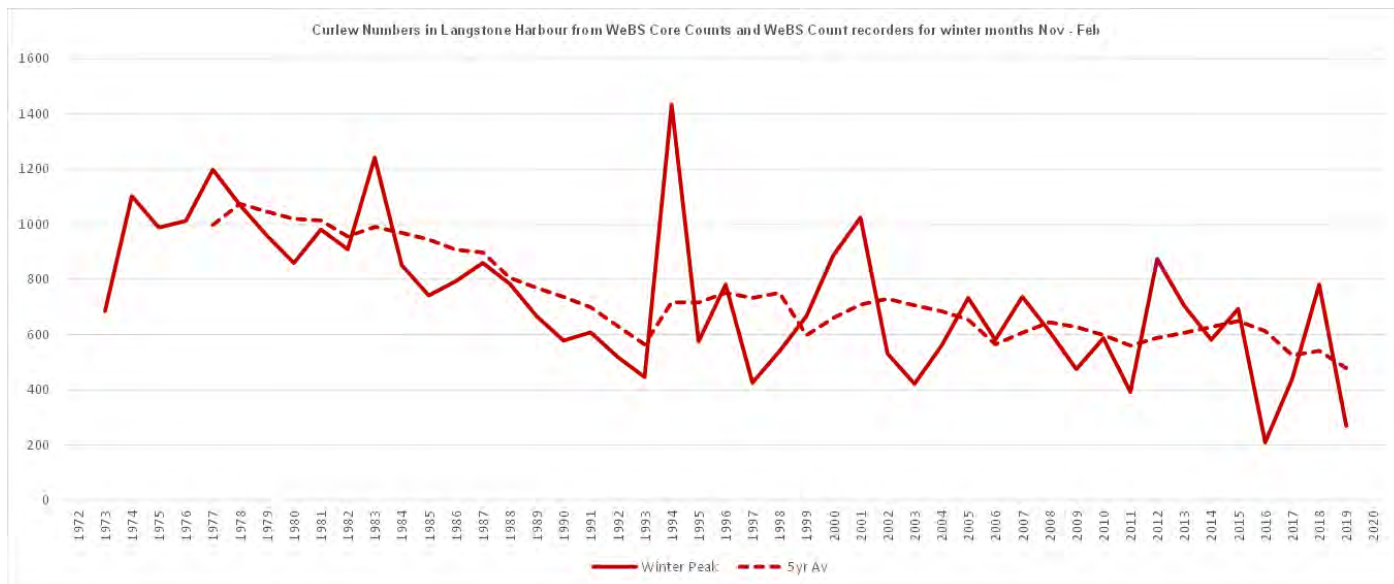
[Camp Down planning application response Jan 2020](#) (PDF).

Peter Potts is a specialist observer and ringer of waders, closely involved in the New Forest Curlew Forum group and the Hampshire Ornithological Society. As a wader specialist, member and active contributor to the International Wader Study Group, chair of the Farlington Ringing Group, and WeBS counter at Langstone since 1975, he is involved with a lead on wader ringing in The Solent, and international projects and expeditions working on Black-tailed Godwits from Iceland to Portugal, Sanderlings in the UK and Portugal and assisting with work on Red Knots in Iceland, lapland and Mauritania. See his paper in the Hampshire Ornithological Society Annual Report 2018 on [Movements of GPS-tracked Curlews](#) (PDF).

The Curlew Forum steering group comprises Geoff Hilton, Mary Colwell, Phil Sheldrake and Mike Smart.

Email: info@curlewcall.org

Website: www.curlewcall.org



The importance of Langstone Harbour is illustrated by this chart, which sadly shows a decline of over 50% in the wintering Curlew numbers since the late 1970s - Chris Cockburn



Eurasian Curlews in the Campdown district under threat - Jim Graham

Waders in Art: 'Waft of Mist' (1820) by Caspar David Friedrich



While researching our book *An Inspiration of Waders*, Elis and I looked at a great number of paintings created by 'the old masters', in particular the landscape artists. What became apparent to us very quickly was that the swirling inspirations of waders that brighten and enliven every estuary where waders gather, were by and large ignored. To quote from the book:

'I think it fair to say that, beyond those with an interest in zoology, waders slipped under the radar as far as the old masters are concerned. If you look at old landscape paintings depicting an estuary or

seascape, the scene will be replete with portrayals of human activities, such as fisher folk going about their business, or perhaps a bit of conflict between stately ships with billowing sails, or the odd perilous storm catching sailing boats and ships unaware. What you will not see is waders; it almost appears that the estuaries were devoid of waders in those days, which surely cannot be the case. More general scenes may have involved the odd childlike bird in flight, some distance away, indicated by a shallow V or the often L-shaped form supposed to represent a duck of some sort. A few artists of

sea and coast have placed intriguing and tantalising shapes on the sand of their beach and estuary scenes but have not made them specifically identifiable as waders; gulls being more likely... One work however called 'Waft of Mist' (1820) by Caspar David Friedrich (1774 - 1840) has captured, with a clear understanding and feeling for the birds' characteristic flight, the moment when a flock of Lapwings is descending to a field. But none of the great landscape artists, as far as I can see, paid any heed to the evocative swirling masses of waders that there must have been on those estuaries of yore.'

A reminder for those still to pay 2019/20 subscriptions

Our subscription rates have been increased

If you have a standing order, please remember to change the rate before your next payment is due.

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Life £200 (no change)

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Wader photo gallery — send us your favourite wader photos



Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus*
- Elis Simpson; USA



Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* (R) Dunlin *Calidris alpina* - Aditya Roy; India



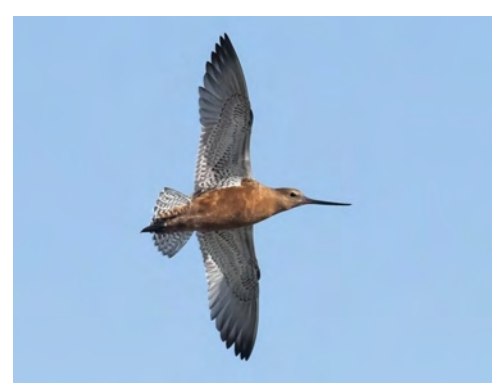
Red Knot *Calidris canutus*
- Bruno Neri; Brazil



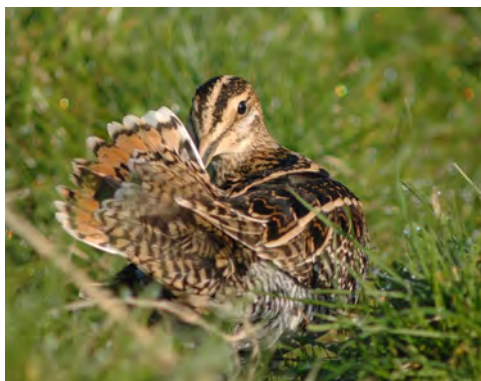
Northern Red-breasted Plover *Charadrius aquilonius* - Dave Jackson; New Zealand



Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
- John Walker; UK



Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*
- Jaysukh Parekh 'Suman'; India



Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*
- Julian Bhalerao; UK



Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*
- Anne Johnson; UK

Wader Conservation World Watch7

WADER CONSERVATION



WORLD WATCH

31st October & 1st NOVEMBER 2020



A Go out and see waders wherever you are in the world.



B Send us an email telling us what you have seen and where.



C Find your sightings on the species list and roll of honour.

STAND UP FOR WADER CONSERVATION AND SAY:



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waderquest@gmail.com / info@waderquest.net

Guidelines for applications for Wader Quest Grants

Projects should ideally be directed to one or more of the following funding priorities:

- Investigating the status of Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable or Near-threatened wader species
- Attempting to further the knowledge of current Important Bird Areas (IBAs) of significant importance to waders, through breeding surveys and conducting systematic counts
- Investigating potential new IBAs or ornithologically little known areas for waders
- Conducting ecological studies of little-known wader species
- Educational programmes, especially aimed at school children and youth to conserve and protect waders and their habitat

Priority will be given to projects:

- Conducted by Nationals of the country where the activity will take place
- Containing an educational element, that engage with local communities and/or have an element of long-term sustainability of the project, such as training of local counterparts or raising awareness of wader conservation within the wider community
- Providing an improvement in the understand of the conservation needs of a under studied wader species through research

The Wader Quest Grants Committee decision will be final and, unless initiated by Wader Quest, no further correspondence will be entered into regarding the decision.

Download Application form [here](#) and send to applications@waderquest.net

Fun Wader Silhouette Quiz — Steve West / Birding Spain

Thank you to Steve and Florinda West of Birding In Spain & Catalonia www.birdingspain.com/ for allowing us to use this fun quiz.

1. Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*
2. Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*
3. Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*
4. Ruff *Calidris pugnax*
5. Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
6. Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* (Little Stint *Calidris minutus* accepted!)
7. Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*
8. Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*
9. Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*
10. Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*
11. Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

12. Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*
13. Eurasian Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*
14. Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
15. Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
16. Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*
17. Collared Pratincole *Glaucopis pratincola*
18. Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*
19. Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*
20. Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*





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Rates effective from 06/04/2019

Wader Quest Trustee news.

Volunteer vacancies at Wader Quest;

Recent resignations mean we now have vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Also we are hoping to set up a Wader Quest Working Group of people who are interested in joining the Wader Quest team.

Interested parties please email info@waderquest.net for information.

New appointments;

None

Next Trustee meeting;

27th April 2020. Venue TBA. 10.30am start.

Email: info@waderquest.net or waderquest@gmail.com
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Edited by Rick Simpson.

