

## Walkthrough: 17.02.2021

# Diary Of A Bird Watching Addict And Other Notes From Whareroa Farm Whareroa Guardians Community Trust

BIRDS RECORDED at Whareroa Farm, 'Walk Through' - Occasional Report																								
Date	17 Feb 2021	5 Jan 2021	20 Nov 2020	9 Oct 2020	12 Sept 2020	10 Aug 2020	20 Jul 2020	May 28 2020	Apr 30 2020	Feb 28 2020	Jan 17 2020	Dec 6 2019	Nov 15 2019	Sep 20 2019	Aug 15 2019	Jul 22 2019	Jun 10 2019	May 8 2019	Mar 18 2019	Feb 21 2019	Nov 21 2018	Oct 10 2018	Sep 8 2018	Aug 9 2018
Begin Time	9.48	9.55	9.56	1.47	1.20	10.04	10.15	11.20	9.40	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.08	10.03	10.05	9.30	10.00	9.45	10.38	9.35	9.30	9.40	9.45	14.00
End Time	11.29	11.50	12.40	3.40	3.30	12.08	11.45	1.05	11.30	11.40	11.05	10.50	10.30	11.58	11.45	11.15	11.58	12.50	12.50	11.15	11.00	11.30	12.30	15.50
Bellbird		5	4	2	2	3	4	1		1	3	2		4	1	3	1	3	2	3	1		2	1
Blackbacked Gull	1	13								5										3				
Blackbird	10	14	10	6	11	8	6	9	4	7	12	10	14	19	12	7	6	2	2	7	7	8	2	10
California quail	7	8	6	4	4	4				4	7	4	8			2				1	1			
Chaffinch	2	10	17	5	6	8	4	7	2	5	9	12	14	8	10	18	3	2	1	1	8	18	10	10
Dunnock																1						1		1
Eastern rosella	2		2						3	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	4				2	4
Falcon									1															
Fantail	4	3	2	5	6	3	7	16	4	5	8	5	7	12	3	7	10	6	7	6	6	2	4	12
Goldfinch	7				40		11	2			5	7	6						8	2	7	14		4
Greenfinch		2			6						2	2	3			1						1	6	
Greywarbler	3	2	9	4	5	5	3	1		8	3	3	5	13	4	3	1	3	4	2	2	1	2	1
Harrier	1			1	1	1								4	3		2			1		2		
Kereru	1	4	2	1	1	2	3	2		1	1		1						1	1		2	2	
Kingfisher			2	1	1		1	1	1		2	2				1	2		2	2			1	
Magpie	4	2	6	2	1	4	1		7	3	1		1	2	1	1	4	3	4	3	1	2		2
Mallard					3										1							1		
Paradise shelduck			6	6	6	4	6		4	1			4	4	5		4	4	2		1	4	6	5
Pheasant		1	8	3		2	1	2			1	5	3	4	2		1	3		1	5			
Pukeko	9	4	1	2	4	4	16		6	8	2	2		3	4	6	3	13	3		2	5	3	3
Redpoll			3		3																			1
Rock Pigeon																								
Shining Cuckoo	1		2																					
Silvereye	3	5	5	4	2	6	5	40	10	27	10	2	17	12	1	15	3	2	11	10	3		7	
Sparrow	6		2		5	1				16	4	2	4	4		2	5	1	29	12	6		12	
Spurwinged Plover				4					2			4				2				1				
Starling	2	12	5				7				22	5	1			6	2	2	20	3	5		2	
Swallow	6	5			3	1			1	12					1		1				4	1	4	3
Thrush	1	1	6	1	1		7	4				5	4	5	5	5		3		2		2	5	
Tui	3	17	9	7	11	5	6	9	10	10	2	4	7	8	5	15	9	10	8	4	6	2	5	2
White faced Heron					1				2															
Yellowhammer			6		4					2	1	1				3		1			1			3
Total Birds	73	108	113	54	130	61	89	94	57	116	99	79	104	103	61	100	57	65	110	59	70	69	69	62
Species Count	19	17	21	16	23	16	17	12	14	17	19	19	18	15	18	18	16	18	17	16	20	14	17	14

A bit of data crunching from the above table (24 walkthrough visits up to and including 17.02.21) ...

- 17 Species sighted. Usually between 14 and 20 species have been sighted during most walk-throughs. September 12, 2020 was a big day with 23 species (on May 28, 2020 only 12 were sighted - nature can be fickle...)
- 3 species have been seen at each walk-through: Blackbird, Tui & Fantail (Chaffinches and Grey Warblers have been off shopping during separate visits, otherwise they would be in this exclusive group too, Silvereyes have not been seen twice)
- 12 species were sighted during at least 67% (16 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Sparrow, Thrush & Tui
- Most sighted (Top 7 in alphabetical order): Blackbird (203), Chaffinch (189), Fantail (150), Goldfinch (113), Silvereyes (200), Sparrow (111), Tui (174).
- Least sighted in this series of reports (in alphabetical order, how often sighted, total number): Dunnock (3, 3), Falcon (2, 3), Mallard (3, 5), Redpoll (3, 7), Shining Cuckoo (2, 3), White Faced Heron (2, 3), Rock Pigeon (0, 0)

### February 17, 2021

*Helen Reports:* Today (Feb 17, 2021) was a pleasant contrast to the previous day or two, so a good chance to get along to do my bird observations. The cool southerly wind had disappeared and the sun was out.

My first encounter was with the California Quail family at the entrance - they are so comical. The pukekos seem to have taken up residence in the picnic area.

Otherwise it was all rather quiet - I saw 19 species but only counted 73 birds (*Ed: a bit below average of 83*). My route was along the bush track parallel with the farm race, then to the Hub and up the Ti Kouka track beside the Matai Bush (very quiet), across to the Ramaroa Stream, down to the Kahikitea and Milk trees, then back along the Ramaroa track.

All very lovely and I never cease to be amazed at the rampant growth of the new bush along the Ramaroa Stream.

I am sure there will soon be many more birds found there. I noticed that the #1 bird count site has come out of its hole in the ground - so much has changed there now with all the trees taking over the original grassland, so maybe it has passed its use-by date?

The most wonderful thing today was watching a shining cuckoo chick being fed by its foster parent, greywarbler!! I suspect there was more than one - on the Ramaroa track leading from the kahikitea, on my way out. I spent quite a while watching them, very close at hand.

A very pleasant and rewarding day!!

The Shining Cuckoo looks a lot like this and will grow to 16cm, 23 grams (more at this link <http://www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/shining-cuckoo> )....



The Grey Warbler looks a lot like this and will grow to 11cm, 6 grams (more at this link <http://www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/grey-warbler> )....



Helen's camera got broken during her judo practice (again!), so we attach a couple of random photos of Whareroa last summer around this time.



