

Bird Count Walkthrough: September 20, 2021

Helen reports...

(see the last 2 pages for Helen's detailed count and the summary)

Finally, yesterday (Monday, Sep 20), Tony and I had a walk through Whareroa, after a long absence!

Now a chance to see what the birds are up to.

First off, we were sad to see the pair of swallows desperately trying to regain their nesting spot in the Information shelter. They are birds of habit and are obviously dismayed to find their home ground blocked!

*(Ed: is this the African or the European swallow? Neither! It's the *H. neoxena* eastern form, of course – see all you want to know about them on nzbordsonline [here](#))*

All the farm was looking very lush with spring growth. There were not so many birds about - probably busy sitting on nests - but we did see 18 different species.

Oddly enough there was only one male paradise shelduck to be seen which is very unusual and the same applies to pukeko.

(Ed: which is more abundant in NZ: Pukeko or Paradise Shelduck? Get your fill [here](#) and [here](#))



The pheasants made themselves known in their raucous way. Most vocal of all were the grey warblers and, great to hear, the [bellbirds](#)!

There were two bellbirds in the old kanuka above the Dell. Always a treat to see them.

Whareroa Guardians Community Trust

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The orchard was looking very promising with blossom appearing and all the kowhais are coming into flower. A real Spring day :-)

It's the [Kereru Count](#) this week - we saw two. How I would love to see nine, as Sue did once! (Ed: reported in our Facebook pages on March 8, 2021 [here](#))

There was quite a scuffle and crunch as we walked along the bike track towards the sand traps - there, on the path were two large hares having a boxing match, ears and legs flying!

We should be listening out for the [shining cuckoo](#) now - they have been heard further north a week or two ago

Hope to get in again before too long!



A bit of data crunching from the attached table (29 walkthrough visits up to and including 20.09.21)

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 recorded

- On Sep 20, 2021: 18 species & 57 birds recorded (seen or heard).
- 3 species have been seen during every walk-through: Blackbird, Tui & Fantail (Chaffinches and Grey Warblers have not been seen once during separate visits, otherwise they would be in this exclusive group too, Silvereyes have not been seen twice)
- 14 species were sighted during at least 62% (18 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Eastern Rosella, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Kereru, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Sparrow, Thrush & Tui
- Most sighted / Top 8 in alphabetical order: Blackbird (228), Chaffinch (205), Fantail (183), Goldfinch (123), Pukeko (127), Silvereyes (230), Sparrow (125), Tui (216)
- 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), Rock Pigeon (0, 0), Shining Cuckoo (2, 3),
White Faced Heron (2, 3)

BIRDS RECORDED at Whareroa Farm, 'Walk Through' – Occasional Report

Date	Begin Time	End Time	Bellbird	Blackbacked Gull	Blackbird	California quail	Chaffinch	Dunnock	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fantail	Goldfinch	Greenfinch	Greywarbler	Harrier	Kereru	Kingfisher	Magpie	Mallard	Paradise shelduck	Pheasant	Pukeko	Redpoll	Rock Pigeon	Shining Cuckoo	Silvereye	Sparrow	Spurwinged Plover	Starling	Swallow	Thrush	Tui	White faced Heron	Yellowhammer	Total Birds	Species Count
09. Aug 18	14.00	15.50	1		10		10				12	4		1				2		5		3	1						3	5	2		3	62	14	
08. Sep 18	9.45	12.30	2		2		10	1	4		4			2		2	1			6		3				7	12		2	4	2	5			69	17
10. Okt 18	9.40	11.30			8		18		2		2	14	6	1	2	2		2		4		5								1		2			69	14
21. Nov 18	9.30	11.00	1		7		8	1			6	7	1	2				1	1	1	5	2				3	6		5	4	2	6		1	70	20
21. Feb 19	9.35	11.15		3	7	1	1				6	2		2	1	1	2	3			1					10	12		3			4			59	16
18. Mär 19	10.38	12.50	3	2	2	1			4		7	8		4		1		4		2		3				11	29	1	20			8			110	17
08. Mai 19	9.45	12.50	3		2		2		3	2	6			3				2	3		4	3	13			2	1		2		3	10		1	65	18
10. Jun 19	10.00	11.58	1		6		3		2		10			1	2			4		4	1	3				3	5		2	1		9			57	16
22. Jul 19	9.30	11.15	3		7	2	18	1	2		7			3			2	1				6				15	2	2	6		5	15		3	100	18
15. Aug 19	10.05	11.45	1		12		10		1		3		1	4	3		1	1	1	5	2	4				1				1	5	5			61	18
20. Sep 19	10.03	11.58	4		19		8		1		12			13	4			2		4	4	3				12	4				5	8			103	15
15. Nov 19	9.08	10.30			14	8	14		2		7	6	3	5		1		1		4	3					17	4		1	3	4	7			104	18
06. Dez 19	9.30	10.50	2		10	4	12		2		5	7	2	3			2				5	2				2	2	4	5		5	4		1	79	19
17. Jan 20	9.30	11.05	3		12	7	9		4		8	5	2	3		1	2	1			1	2				10	4		22		2		1		99	19
28. Feb 20	9.30	11.40	1	5	7	4	5		1		5			8		1		3		1		8				27	16			12		10		2	116	17
30. Apr 20	9.40	11.30			4		2		3	1	4						1	7		4		6				10		2		1		10			57	14
28. Mai 20	11.20	1.05	1		9		7				16	2		1		2	1					2				40					4	9			94	12
20. Jul 20	10.15	11.45	4		6		4				7	11		3		3	1	1		6	1	16				5	1		7		7	6			89	17
10. Aug 20	10.04	12.08	3		8	4	8				3			5	1	2		4		4	2	4				6				1		5	1		61	16
12. Sep 20	1.20	3.30	2		11	4	6				6	40	6	5	1	1	1	1	3	6		4	3			2	5	4		3	1	11		4	130	23
09. Okt 20	1.47	3.40	2		6	4	5				5			4	1	1	1	2		6	3	2				4					1	7			54	16
20. Nov 20	9.56	12.40	4		10	6	17		2		2			9		2	2	6		6	8	1	3		2	5	2		5		6	9		6	113	21
05. Jan 21	9.55	11.50	5	13	14	8	10				3		2	2		4		2			1	4				5			12	5	1	17			108	17
17. Feb 21	9.48	11.29		1	10	7	2		2		4	7		3	1	1		4				9			1	3	6		2	6	1	3			73	19
06. Apr 21	9.40	11.45	1		5		1				3	5		5				1	5		2	3				13	6			2		13			65	14
06. Mai 21	1.20	3.15	2		5		3		1		7	1		4		3	1			2		9				5	3				1	7			54	15
11. Jun 21	10.22	12.14	2		4		2		1		13			5	1			3		2		4				3	1		3	3	6	11			64	16
09. Jul 21	10.25	12.37	4		8		6				6			3		2				6		7				5			5		1	7		1	61	13
20. Sep 21	1.40	3.27	5		3		4		3		4	4		5		2	2			1	4	1				4	4		3	3		4		1	57	18

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