

# May Report 2017

## 22 Dec 2016

On an evening stroll with Chris Barfoot, to listen to bird calls, we were delighted to count c110 godwits feeding on the mud flats at low tide.

## Visit on 15 Feb 2017 (2.30 – 4.30 pm) High Tide at 2.26pm

Sun and cloud with a cool wind blowing down the river. Tide dropped to reveal extensive mud flats while I was there. Walking out on the spit, oystercatchers, white-faced herons and godwits were feeding on the tide edge and moving gradually further away. On the shingle bank c40 black-backed gulls were roosting and while I was there one tiny wader, identity unknown, flashing white underparts, was hurtling around chased by an immature black-backed gull.

## Visit on 21 April 2017 (10.45– 1.00 pm) High Tide at 2.39pm

A still autumn day with 8/8ths cloud cover.

<b>Butterflies</b>	15 Feb 17	21 Apr 17
Monarch	1	
Long-tailed Blue		
Small White	1	1
NZ Copper		

<b>Birds in Reserve</b>	<b>22 Dec 16</b>	<b>15 Feb 17</b> 2.00 - 4.30pm	<b>21 Apr 17</b> 10.45 – 1.00pm
Pied Shag			1
Little Black Shag		4	
Little Shag		6 + 3 nests	9
Black swan			
White-faced Heron *		5	35
Paradise Duck			2
Mallard/Grey Duck		85	43
Pheasant			
Banded Rail			
Pukeko		9	14
Black-backed Gull *		6	8
Red-billed Gull *		5	42
Caspian Tern *			
White-fronted Tern			2
Spotted Dove		1	1
Eastern Rosella			
Kingfisher		1	8
Song Thrush		1	1
Blackbird		7	3
Grey Warbler	2	4	1
	22 Dec 16	15 Feb 17	21 Apr 17

Silvereye		8	8
Fantail		2	1
Tui		1	8
Chaffinch			2
Goldfinch	3		1
Greenfinch			
Welcome Swallow		8	1
House Sparrow		17	10
Myna			
Starling		7	9
<b>Birds on Mudflats</b>		Mid Tide Extensive flats	Near full tide
Royal Spoonbill			
White-faced Heron *		17	
Black Swan	4		2
Pied Oystercatcher		c120	c100
Variable Oystercatcher		1	4
Spur-winged Plover	8	2	2
NZ Dotterel			
Shore Plover			
Bar-tailed Godwit	c110	c123	
Pied Stilt		2	24
Black-backed Gull *		46	
Red-billed Gull *		12	
Caspian Tern			11
White-fronted Tern			2
<b>Total Species</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>

**\* May be seen on Mudflats and in Reserve**

**Robin Child**