

INTERNATIONAL CO-

OPERATION – IT’S FOR THE BIRDS

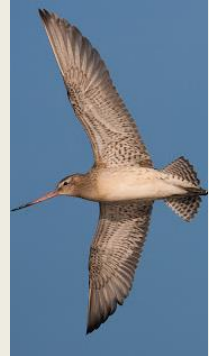
KEITH WOODLEY, PUKOROKORO MIRANDA SHOREBIRD CENTRE

Migratory birds don’t need passports. But their travels result in complications when stopover sites are, lost to reclamation projects. However, there are also heartening levels of international co-operation. Guest speaker Keith Woodley of the Pukorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre will explain.

Woodley is an expert on the migration routes of birds. For example, the bar-tailed godwits fly every year an astonishing 12,000 kms from Alaska to the Firth of Thames without stopping.

Woodley marvels at these birds, the way they link us to other countries and cultures.

“They link us with habitats in East Asia around the Yellow Sea where they stop to refuel during their northern migration and link us with the coastal mudflats of Alaska and the tundra where they breed,” he says. “All these birds require habitats in three different parts of the planet, and all of those parts are equally important. If one of those parts disappeared, the whole migration system would fall down.”



Since 1994, the Pukorokoro Miranda Naturalists’ Trust (PMNT) has been directly engaged in shorebird research and advocacy work along the East Asian Australasian Flyway.

Much of their work has centred on China, especially the Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve near the border with North Korea.

Since 2015, the Miranda Trust has completed five years of shorebird surveys on the west coast of North Korea, documenting at least ten migratory stopover sites of international importance. This work has quietly continued; despite the bellicose posturing on the International political scene.

“For a small NGO based on the Firth of Thames, it has been a most interesting journey,” says Keith Woodley. “Until 2011, when the New Zealand government joined the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership, PMNT was the sole NZ partner.”

Venue: Rosewood, 417 Queen Street, Kuripuni, Masterton

Date/Time: Thursday, 31 March 2022 at 8.00 pm.
(Tea and coffee dispensed with.)

Vaccine passes, masks and social distancing required.

Non-members: \$5.00 door charge All are welcome



For more information about the Institute of International Affairs, contact:

Aileen Weston
152 Dreyers Rock Road
R D 2, Masterton 5882

Wairarapa Branch:
Secretary/Treasurer

Phone: (06) 372 5741
Email: aileen.weston@orcon.net.nz
Website: www.nziaa.org.nz