

The Bermuda Audubon Society

President's Report
2020-21



Audubon Committee 2020-2021

Karen Border – President

Jennifer Gray – Vice President

Zelia Amaral – Treasurer

Janice Hetzel – Secretary

Devika Mather – Membership Secretary

Peter Lee

Jeremy Madeiros

Joanne Smith

Paul Watson

David Wingate

Gift of Cat and Partridge Islands

With thanks to the Simmons,
Walker and Butt families



Above: Cat Island
Below: Partridge Island



Nature Reserves

Somerset Long Bay West



Above and below: Somerset Long Bay West Nature Reserve before restoration

Volunteer tree planting November 2020



Nature Reserves

Somerset Long Bay West



Above: New plantings of natives and endemics



Volunteer tree planting May 2021



Nature Reserves

Stokes Point East



Thanks to all our Nature Reserve volunteers!

Alfred Blackburn Smith Reserve



Buy Back Bermuda

Eve's Pond Nature Reserve

Restoration in progress – stay tuned for public opening!



Bird Conservation

Tern Project

Thanks to David Wingate, Miguel Mejias, and Erich Hetzel aided by Paul Watson, Neal Morris, Joanne Smith and Lynn Thorne; Jennie and Sean Kelly for refurbished raft; Tim Patton's barge crew for transport of equipment



Photo courtesy Erich Hetzel



Photos courtesy Neal Morris

Cahow 2020 breeding season: a record number of 134 breeding pairs, with 69 chicks confirmed as successfully fledging out to sea (just below 2019's record of 73 fledglings)

Bird Conservation

Bluebirds and Longtails

Thanks to Tom Vesey, Ted Cassidy, Cole and Russell Steinhoff, Hubert Watlington and Trey Whaley for Bluebird box building, and to Alistair Border and Erich Hetzel for making Longtail Igloos



Advocacy

- Planning Application Review Team (PART)
- Parks Commission representation
- Letters to the Environment Minister
- Letters to the Editor



Plans to lease part of Southlands Park to the Bermudiana Beach Resort to develop an events lawn and carpark are being opposed by the Parks Commission

Judkin Lane behind Mangrove Lake will soon be developed with a 6,000 square foot house

Education

Virtual talks:

Getting to Know Bermuda's Chick of the Village by Miguel Mejias

Bird and Wildlife Photography by Devika Mather

All Things Bluebird by Janice Hetzel


The Silver Lining of Covid Restrictions by Andrea Webb

BERMUDA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES

ALL THINGS BLUEBIRD!

Presenter: Janice Hetzel, Bluebird enthusiast and member of the Bermuda Audubon Society Management Committee.

PLUS A MINI TALK "THE SILVER LINING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS" BY ANDREA WEBB.



DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME!

WHERE:
Direct ZOOM call

WHEN:
Thursday, March 25th at 7:00pm

HOW TO REGISTER:
Click on the link to register and you will be sent a link to the Zoom call.

Learn about the natural history of the Eastern Bluebird in Bermuda, why they need our help and how to take care of a Bluebird nestbox. We'll also introduce you to NestWatch, an online monitoring and data collection programme that helps us to assess the status of our local breeding Bluebird population.

For more information, please contact Lisa Greene at elgreenebda@icloud.com. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the ZOOM presentation.



Alison Copeland at Sears Cave with Bermuda Boy Scouts

Events

Bird Watching and Bird Photography



*Spittal Pond Field Trip, World
Shorebirds Day 6 September*



*Bird Photography walk in
Arboretum, February*



Seabird watch, Coopers Island

Events

October Bird Camp

A weekend 'staycation' of fun for keen birders, occasional birders and even non-birders...
Outings, talks, good food and good company!



Events

70th Anniversary of the Rediscovery of the Cahow

Virtual Lunch 'n Learn at Bermuda College with David Wingate, Jeremy Madeiros and Miguel Mejias, thanks to Glenn Fubler and BEST



Robert Cushman Murphy and Louis Mowbray hold up the rediscovered Cahow in 1951



A young David Wingate at the entrance to a Cahow burrow

Events

The Great February Bermuda Birding Contest



*Young member Luke Foster
congratulated by Erich Hetzel*



Andrea Webb, first prize winner

Events

Whale Watching

Ten members enjoyed a spectacular day out on *Endurance* in March to see Humpback Whales

Thank you to Nigel and Devika!



Photography Club

Sign up to Audubon's Facebook and Instagram pages to enjoy our members' beautiful photography – and send in your own!



Young Pied-billed Grebe, photo by Tim White



Magnolia Warbler, photo by Herb Marshall



Green Heron on nest, photo by Daria Taiakina

Bird Highlights of the Year



First record of Mountain Bluebird, photo Neal Morris



First recorded Killdeer nesting, at new airport pond, photo Tim White



First record of Black-browed Albatross, photo Macaulay Library

Bird Highlights of the Year



First record of European Golden-Plover, photo Erich Hetzel



First record of Scopoli's Shearwater, photo Ian Fisher

Cooperation and Partnerships

Locally:

B.E.S.T. • Bermuda National Trust (Buy Back Bermuda) •
Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute • Bermuda Zoological
Society • Conservation Services, Bermuda Government • ECO
Bermuda • Keep Bermuda Beautiful • Parks Commission

Internationally:

BirdLife International • BirdsCaribbean • National Audubon
Society • North American Birds • Royal Society for the Protection
of Birds (UK) • UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum

Thank you!

To our loyal members, volunteers and supporters

H.E. Ms Rena Lalgie, Governor of Bermuda (Patron)

Aberfeldy Nurseries – Bluebird box sales

BAMZ – ocean fieldtrips

Bermuda National Trust – jointly managed nature reserves

Bermuda Marine Services – Tern project support

Bermuda Red Cross – storage space

Dept of Conservation Services

Deloitte – Seymour's Pond nature reserve sponsor

Horsfield Landscaping – ABS nature reserve maintenance

Stuart Smith and his Bluebird Society volunteers

Jamie Steeves – maintenance of Vesey Street verges

Simon Van de Weg – tree planting at Somerset Long Bay

Tom Vesey and Ted Cassidy – making Bluebird boxes & kits

Alistair Border and Erich Hetzel – making Longtail igloos