

### Chukar



Photograph Neil Wynne Jones

where it appeared not to be afraid of humans. It was too much of a coincidence for it not to be the same bird as they have not been reported very often in Waikanae .

Look what ended up in Neil's vege garden here in Waikanae. A chukar [partridge] it must have escaped from someone's aviary. These birds have been introduced as game birds over time, apparently not very successfully. Not only did it end up in Neil's garden but it was also

seen in Peka-peka



Photo by Charlie Georgetti

### Oystercatcher



It's the time of the year for mating and nesting with the birds exerting their authority and marking out their territory. These two oystercatchers, photo by Roger Smith, are having a ding-dong fight no doubt over the opposite sex- the winner takes all!

### Harrier Hawk

The harrier hawk just loves this time of the year! There are babies every where, as most of the estuary birds either have babies or are nesting. The harrier hawks nest on the Southern side of the river in the rough scrub and have been nesting in this area for a very long time.

If you follow the mature birds flight as they make their way back to their nest after ranging around the Estuary collecting whatever morsels that can, it takes you back to their nest.

The young can be seen waiting for their food by the nest, while testing their wings getting ready to fledge. The mature birds love to ride the thermals circling round and round as they soar high in the sky, while ever keeping an eye out for any injured bird or unprotected baby that would make a nice meal.



Photograph David Mudge

## Grey warbler



Photograph Ken Begg  
as long as it did, to be photographed!

The grey warbler has a wonderful song but is very hard to see as it flits from one branch to another. Its tantalising as it continues to sing its lovely song but seldom sits still for long and is hard to photograph. However taking Ken a local tourist for a tour of the estuary the other day, we spotted this bird posing for a photograph. I played my grey warbler song from my phone but it never took any notice of it. Previously if I play the song the warbler flies to check it out .

We were very lucky that it stayed still for

## Stoat



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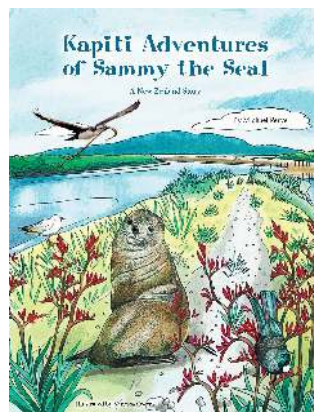
Stoats are a problem within the estuary, although there are traps set along the river bank and in the Scientific Reserve.

One was spotted on the beach at the Waimea stream estuary. The pheasants like to nest in this area and I have no doubt the stoat is aware of this.

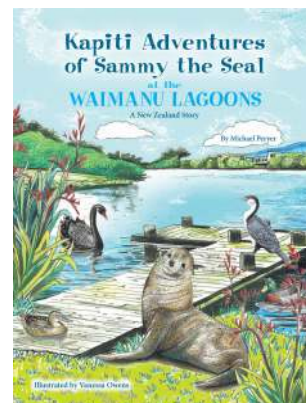
## Whitebaiters

The whitebaiters are having a very good season with the weather being more settled than last year. There have been some wonderful catches and as they spend countless hours with their nets in the water they deserve all they catch.

My second Children's book has now been published, and all that needs to be done is for it to be sold ! If it's anything like the first one it should go well.



Book one



Book two

**Ideal for overseas Christmas presents!**

**Hits last month—forty Four Thousand one Hundred & Nine**  
***Mik Peryer the Birdman of Waikanae***  
**Sponsored by Chris Lee Sharebroking**

**My new E/Mail address is -- [michaelperyer@gmail.com](mailto:michaelperyer@gmail.com)**