

Birds of the Nelson Region

For our final outing for the year in December, our group of 13 enjoyed wandering around Monaco. Not a lot of birds seen, though a pair of variable oystercatchers strutted proudly for the camera.

With warm weather and good company nobody cared about the lack of birds. It's not just birds that catch our eye, as back at the Monaco Reserve, a rare yellow pohutukawa tree was coming into bloom, so some of us examined and photographed this.

Research online shows that all trees with yellow flowers are descended from a pair of trees that grew naturally on Motiti island in the Bay of Plenty. They have since been cultivated commercially.

Finally we adjourned to The Brick Eatery for an enjoyable lunch before saying our farewells, and already looking forward to our next meeting in February 2026.

Trevor Lewis, Convenor