## Point Lilias and Kirk's Point

## BIRDS SEEN 0N December 2nd .97

Black swan Shelduck Chestnut Teal Little Pied Cormorant Pied Cormorant Little Black Cormorant Pelican White Faced Heron Little Egret Straw-necked Ibis Sacred Ibis Black shouldered Kite Brown Falcon Greenshank Ruddy Turnstone Red-necked stint Sharp tailed sandpiper Pied oyster catcher Black-winged stilt Red-capped Plover

Masked Lapwing Pacific Gull Silver Gull Crested tern Whiskered tern Red-rumped parrot Superb Fairy wren Red wattle bird White plumed honeyeater White fronted chat Magpie-lark Willie Wagtail Australian Magpie Little Raven Richard's pipit House sparrow Goldfinch Greenfinch Welcome Swallow Common Blackbird Tree Martin Starling

RUDDY TURNSTONE Arenaria interpres 21-25 cm



Tubby, distinctive wader with slightly upturned, short black bill and short orange legs. Breeding plumage: unmistakable — black, white and orange tortoise-shell pattern; male brighter than female. Nonbreeding: grey—brown above, white below with smutty black 'cloverleaf' bib on upperbreast; legs orange; often has traces of orange in upperparts. Immature: like nonbreeding adult, but more dusky, with scaly pattern of pale feather margins. Solitary, small parties or with other waders; abundant in Gt Barrier Reef (Q) and Roebuck Bay (WA), where winter flocks of 20–200+ gather. Potters slowly, or

bustles, flipping shells and bulldozing heaps of seaweed with bill. Sturdy on wing, with frequent noisy aerial chases, showing conspicuous white wing-panel, white lower back and tail crossed by two black bars. Voice: guttural, rattling 'kitititit'; ringing 'kee-oo'. Habitat: tidal reefs and pools; weed-covered rocks; pebbly, shelly and sandy shores with stranded seaweed; mudflats; occasionally inland on shallow waters, sewage ponds, commercial saltfields, open or ploughed ground. Range and Status: breeds high Arctic: migrates to all s. continents. Regular summer migrant (Aug.—April) to coastal Aust.; some inland. May overwinter, some in breeding plumage. Also Lord Howe, Norfolk, Christmas and other islands; NZ. Vagrant Macquarie 1.

