



Miss Chrissie's
Bird List for the
Chrissiesmeer Wetlands and Grasslands

Observations and notes recorded by Jake de Villiers (April 2004)

Listed by English Common Name

Prepared by Big Skies

Bird list for Miss Chrissie's and the Chrissiesmeer Area

Birds recorded in the Chrissiesmeer area

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English Names	Afrikaans Names	Scientific Names	Location
Avocet	Bontelsie	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Flocks arrive as the pans dry up
Barbet, Blackcollared	Rooikophoutkapper	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	Limited by the scarcity of trees
Barbet, Crested	Kuifkophoutkapper	<i>Trachyhonus vaillantii</i>	In the farm gardens
Bee-eater, European	Europese byvreter	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Regular summer visitor
Bishop, Golden	Goudgeelvink	<i>Euplectes afer</i>	Widespread in grasslands
Bishop, Red	Rooivink	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	Widespread - males in breeding plumage flock together
Bokmakierie	Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	Farmhouse environs
Bulbul, Blackeyed	Swartoogtiptol	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	Around the farm houses
Bustard, Stanley's	Veldpou	<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>	Virtually extinct in Chrissie area - recorded once in 8 years
Buzzard, Jackal	Rooiborsjakkalsvoël	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>	Not common
Buzzard, Steppe	Bruinkakkalsvoël	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>	Summer visitor
Canary, Blackthroated	Bergkanarie	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	Small groups near homesteads
Canary, Cape	Kaapse kanarie	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	Homesteads and tree plantations
Chat, Anteating	Swartpiek	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>	One of the most characteristic birds of the grasslands
Chat, Familiar	Gewone spervreter	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>	Around dwellings
Chat, Mountain	Bergwagter	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>	Recorder twice on boulders near rocky pans
Chat, Stone	Bontrokkie	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Partial to wetland areas
Cisticola, Fantailed	Landeryklopkloppie	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Not common
Cisticola, Levallant's	Vleitinktinkie	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	Seen near the pans
Cisticola, Palecrowned	Bleekkopklopkloppie	<i>Cisticola brunnescens</i>	The common Cisticola in the Lake Chrissie pans
Coot, Redknobbed	Bleshoender	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	Seen on any sheet of water - up to 2000 on pans
Cormorant, Reed	Rietduiker	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	Partial to the flooded pans
Cormorant, Whitebreasted	Witborsduiker	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Widely distributed, partial to the lakes
Crake, Baillon's	Kleinriethaan	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>	Vagrant, only record is in the eighties (Allan)
Crake, Black	Swatriethaan	<i>Amaurornis flavirostris</i>	Uncommon only recorded in the reed and sedge pans
Crane, Blue	Bloukraanvoël	<i>Anthropoidesparadisea</i>	Only one record near Lake Chrissie
Crane, Crowned	Mahem	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	Regularly recorded around Lake Banagher - up to 180 birds
Crane, Wattled	Lelkraanvoël	<i>Grus carunculata</i>	Single birds recorder on two occasions near Blinkpan
Crow, Pied	Witborskraai	<i>Corvus alba</i>	Lake Chrissie location
Cuckoo, Black	Swartkoekoek	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	Only recorded once in a stand of pines
Cuckoo, Diederik	Diederikkie	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	Regularly seen during summer
Cuckoo, Redchested	Piet-my-vrou	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	Invariable heard in summer - seldom seen
Curlew	Grootwulp	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Two unexpected sightings on open pans in 8 ears
Dabchick (Little Grebe)	Kleindobbertjie	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Resident. Numbers fluctuate throughout the year
Dikkop, Spotted	Dikkop	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	Seen around the rocky outcrops
Dove, Laughing	Rooiborsduifie	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Widespread particularly arounds the kraals
Dove, Namaqua	Namakwaduijie	<i>Oena capensis</i>	Irregular visitor
Dove, Redeyed	Grootringduif	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	Widespread over the pans

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Dove, Turtle , Cape	Gewone tortelduif	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	Noted around the few trees in the panveld
Duck, Fulvous	Fluiteend	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	Vagrant. Recorded 3 times in 8 years
Duck, Knobbilled	Knobbeleend	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	Recorded by Allan, but not in the present survey - vagrant
Duck, Whitebacked	Witrugeend	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	Partial to floating vegetation - resident
Duck, White-faced	Nonnetjie-eend	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Vagrant, Recorded on 3 occasions in 8 years
Duck, Yellowbilled	Geelbekeend	<i>Anas undulata</i>	Resident - numbers can rise to 275 birds on one pan
Eagle, Fish, African	Visarend	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	Irregular vagrant, only recorder twice in 8 years
Eagle, Longcrested	Langkuifarend	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	One recorder in blu gum plantation near Lake Banagher
Egret, Black	Swartreier	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	Only recorded 11 birds in 8 years on Lake Chrissie (2004)
Egret, Cattle	bosluisvoël	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Abundant breeds in the reed beds
Egret, Great White	Grootwitreier	<i>Egretta alba</i>	Most widely distributed of the Egrets, up to 37 on Grasspans
Egret, Little White	Kleinwitreier	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Uncommon, same habitat as the Great White
Egret, Yellowbilled	Geelbekwitreier	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	Uncommon, easily confused with the Great White
Falcon, Amur	Oostelike Rooipootvalk	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	Less often recorder than the Red-footed Falcon
Falcon, Lanner	Edelvalk	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Only recorded twice in 8 years
Falcon/Kestrel, RedfootedWestern	Westerlike Rooipootvalk	<i>Falco verspertinus</i>	Common summer visitor
Finch, Cuckoo	Koekoekvink	<i>Anomalospiza imberbis</i>	Spotted twice in the company of weavers - Slangpan
Finch, Quail	Gewone kwartelvinkie	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	Not often seen
Flamingo, Greater	Grootflamink	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	Odd birds present for most of the year. Numbers can rise to 200
Flufftail, Redchested	Rooiborsvleikuiken	<i>Sarothrura rufa</i>	Extremely elusive - seen once in eighties and once on 2004
Francolin, Greywing	Bergpatrys	<i>Francolinus africanus</i>	Only recorded around Eilandsmeer - uncommon
Francolin, Redwing	Rooivlerkpatrys	<i>Francolinus levaillantii</i>	One recorded near Graspan
Francolin, Swainson's	Bosveldfisant	<i>Francolinus swainsonii</i>	Widespread and common
Gallinule, Purple	Grootkoningriethaan	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Number vary with pan conditions - up to 70 on one grassy pan
Goose, Egyptian	Kolgans	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>	Survey pans have an overall population of 1000 - 1500
Goose, Spurwinged	Wildemakou	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	Vyes with the Egyptian Goose as the most abundant water bird
Grebe, Black Necked	Swartnekdoobertjie	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Vagrant. Seen on saline and sedge-lined pans
Grebe, Great Crested	Kuifkopdoobertjie	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Resident. Occures in all the Pans
Greenshank	Witgatruiter	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Seen on ll the pans in low numbers in summer
Guineafowl, Helmeted	Gewone tarentaal	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	Widespread
Gull, Greyheaded	Gryskopmeeu	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>	Subject to movement in and out of pans. 50 pairs nest in Grasslands
Gymnogene	Kaalwangvalk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	Vagrant - rarely seen - occurred near the gum and oak trees
Hamerkop	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Partial to the streams feeding into the pans and lakes
Harrier, Marsh, African	Afrikaanse Vleivalk	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	Vagrant - rarely seen around the reed pans
Harrier, Marsh, European	Europese Vleivalk	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Recorded in eighties by Allan. Seen once in current survey
Heron, Blackheaded	Swartkopreier	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	Partial to grasslands away from water
Heron, Goliath	Reusereier	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	Became established in the area in 2004.
Heron, Grey	Bloureier	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Widely distriubuted, numbers small

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Heron, Night, Blackcrowned	Gewone Nagreier	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Seen in reedbeds and roosting in the willows - Tweeling pan
Heron, Purple	Rooireier	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Partial to reeds and sedge-lined pans
Heron, Squacco	Ralreier	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Uncommon, only seen shulking in reeds
Honeyguide, Greater	Grootheuningwyser	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	Picked up by call seldom seen
Hoopoe, African	Hoepoep	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Seen amongst the farmhouses
Ibis, Bald	Kalkoenibis	<i>Geronticus calvus</i>	Regularly recorder feeding in flocks on newly mown fields
Ibis, Glossy	Glansibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Numbers fluctuate markedly. Partial to flooded areas in the pans
Ibis, Sacred	Skoorsteenveer	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Widely distributed when pans have water
Ibis, Hadeda	Hadeda	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Everywhere
Jacana, African	Grootlangtoon	<i>Actophilornis Africanus</i>	Vagrant, seen once or twice in most years
Jacana, Lesser	Dwerglangtoon	<i>Microparra capensis</i>	Recorded only by Allan - most unusual record
Kestrel, Rock	Kransvalk	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Uncommon - seen around the larger rock boulders
Kingfisher, Giant	Reuse visvanger	<i>Ceryle maxima</i>	Recorded only twice in 8 years
Kingfisher, Malachite	Kuifkopvisvanger	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>	Rarely recorded on the reedbed hoves
Kingfisher, Pied	Bontvisvanger	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Uncommon
Kite, Black	Swartwou	<i>Milvus migrans migrans</i>	Summer visitor
Kite, Blackshouldered	Blouvalk	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Resident
Kite, Yellowbilled	Geelbekwou	<i>Milvus migrans parasitus</i>	Summer visitor
Korhaan, Blue	Bloukorhaan	<i>Eupodotis caerulescens</i>	Resident - more often seen than heard
Lark, Redcapped	Rooikoplewerik	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	Partial to the short grass around the pans
Lark, Rudd's	Drakensberglewerik	<i>Mirafr ruddi</i>	Partial to the short grass on eastern shore of Lake Chrissie
Lark, Spikeheeled	Vlaktelewerik	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>	Short and longer grasslands around the pans
Lesser Flamingo	Kleinflamink	<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>	Generally confined to Blinkpan (up to 2000) and Lake Chrissie (200)
Longclaw, Orangethroated	Oranjekeelkalkoentjie	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>	Another typical Lake Chrissie bird
Martin, Banded	Gebande oewerswael	<i>Riparia cincta</i>	Feeding low over the grasslands
Martin, Brownthroated	Afrikaanse oewerswael	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Vicinity of water
Martin, Rock	Kransswael	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>	Sporadically seen
Martin, Sand, European	Europese oewerswael	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Flocking on the fences in summer
Moorhen	Grootwaterhoender	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Irregularly seen on the reed pans
Moorhen, Lesser	Kleinwaterhoender	<i>Gallinula angulata</i>	Vagrant, recorded twice in 8 years
Mousebird, Speckled	Gevlekte muisvoël	<i>Colius striatus</i>	Around farmhouses with fruit orchards
Myna, Indian	Indiese spreeu	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Lake Chrissie Village
Nightjar, Fierynecked	Afrikaanse naguil	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	Not common
Oriole, Blackheaded	Swartkopwielewaal	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	In the Exotic tree plantations
Owl, Barn	Nonnetjie-uil	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Uncommon
Owl, Eagle, Cape	Kaapse ooruil	<i>Bubo capensis</i>	Seldom seen - reported to be resident
Owl, Eagle, Spotted	Gevlekte ooruil	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	Widespread known to compete with Egyptian Goose for nest
Owl, Grass	Grasuil	<i>Tyto capensis</i>	Rarely observed

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Owl, Marsh	Vlei-uil	<i>Asio capensis</i>	Seen quarterling the grasslands - usually at dark
Pigeon, Rock	Kransduif	<i>Columba guinea</i>	Common in the low areas around Blinkpan
Pipit, Grassveld	Grasveld koester	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	Widespread
Pipit, Plainbacked	Donkerkoester	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>	More open grasslands
Plover, Chestnutbanded	Rooibandstrandkiewiet	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	Flagship bird for Blinkpan - always present in low numbers
Plover, Crowned	Kroonkiewiet	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	Widespread on short grass away from water
Plover, Golden, Pacific	oosterse goue strandkiewiet	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Seen several times in the course of 2 days on Lake Chrissie
Plover, Grey	Grysstrandkiewiet	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Seen once on a sandy shore on a pan just east of Lake Chrissie
Plover, Kittlitz's	Geelborsstrandkiewiet	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	Seen skulking around all the pans
Plover, Mongolian	Mongoolsestrandkiewiet	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	Recorder once 3 birds on one of the pans east of Lake Chrissie
Plover, Ringed	ringnekstrandkiewiet	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Regularly recorded in ones and twos in early summer
Plover, Threebanded	Driebandstrandkiewiet	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	Widespread resident
Plover, Wattled	Lelkiewiet	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	Uncommon, presumably resident
Pochard, Southern	Bruineend	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>	Highly irregular, have recorded several hundred on one fresh water pan
Pranticole, Blackwinged	Swartvlerksprinkaanvoël	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	Recorder on two consecutive summers over Lake Chrissie
Quail, Common	Afrikaanse kwartel	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Only seen when flushed driving through long grass to pans.
Quail, Harlequin	Bontkwartel	<i>Coturnix delegorguei</i>	Readily identified by its call in summer - seldom seen
Quail, Kurrichane Butter	Bosveldkwarteltjie	<i>Turnix sylvatica</i>	Only seen when flushed by a vehicle
Quelea, Redbilled	Rooibekkewelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	Small loose flocks in grasslands
Rail, African	Groetriethaan	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>	One record - seen in a muddy bog
Redshank	Rooipootruiter	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Recorded once on the mudflats - Koolbank December 2003
Robin, Cape	Janfrederik	<i>Cassypa caffra</i>	Farm dwellings
Ruff	Kemphaan	<i>Ohilomachus pugnax</i>	Strong preference for flooded grasslands. Flocks up to 57
Sandpiper, Common	Gewone ruter	<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	Regularly seen every summer. Prefers the rocky pans
Sandpiper, Curlew	Krombekstrandloper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Flocks up to 75 in summer
Sandpiper, Marsh	Moerasruiter	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Single birds regularly seen on the vegetated pans every summer
Sandpiper, Wood	Bosruiter	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Seen on most of the pans in small numbers in summer
Secretary Bird	Sekretarisvoël	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	Rarely seen - only two records - both in the grasslands
Shelduck, South African	Kopereend	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	Not recorded in the eighties. Now seen 3 times in 8 years
Shrike, Fiscal	Fiskaallaksman	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	Widely distributed
Snipe, African	Afrikaanse snip	<i>Gallinago nigripennis</i>	Up to 26 on one pan in dry conditions
Snipe, Painted	Goudsnip	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	Seen in January when Lake Chrissie is really flooded
Sparrow, Cape	Gewone mossie	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	Farmhouses and fields
Sparrow, House	Huismossie	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Village and from buildings
Spoonbill, African	Lepelaar	<i>Platalea alba</i>	Always present on the pans in small numbers
Starling, Glossy Cape	Kleingansspreeu	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	Around farmhouses
Starling, Pied	Witgatspreeu	<i>Spreo bicolor</i>	Environs of Lake Chrissie Village
Starling, Redwinged	Rooivlerkspreeu	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	Village and old buildings

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Stilt, Blackwinged	Rooipootelsie	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Widespread, numbers rise when pans start drying up
Stint, Little	Kleinstrandloper	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Most widespread weeder. Some over winter
Stork, Black	Grootswartooievaar	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Only 1 record of 3 storks on a pan near Blinkpan
Stork, Marabou	Maraboe	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>	One record of 11 storks circling the abbatoir at Lake Chrissie
Stork, White	Witooievaar	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Flocks gather on the newly mown fields in summer
Stork, Yellowbilled (Wood Ibis)	Nimmersat	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	1 or 2 birds regularly recorded on Lake Chrissie
Sunbird, Black	Swartsuikerbekkie	<i>Nectarinia amethystina</i>	Farm gardens
Sunbird, Malachite	Jangroentjie	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>	Seen twice, once in a shrub in village and in wild dagga on Graspan
Swallow, European	Europese swael	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Plentiful in summer
Swallow, Striped, Greater	Grootstreepswael	<i>Hirundo cuculatta</i>	Grasslands
Swallow, Whitethroated	Witkeelswael	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	Around and stremms feeding the pans
Swift, Black	Swartwindswael	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	Subject to local movement
Swift, Little	Kleinwindswael	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Irregular, no suitable resting sites
Swift, Whiterumped	Witkruiswindswael	<i>Apus caffer</i>	Seen in Lake Chrissie village
Teal, Cape	Teeleend	<i>Anas Capensis</i>	Partial to more saline on open pans. Up to 75 on Blinkpan
Tern, Whiskered	Witbaardmeersterretjie	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	Summer breeders on the vegetated pans
Tern, Whitewinged	Witvlerksterretjie	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	Flock up to 00 strong occur in summer on Lake Chrissie
Thrush, Olive	Olyflyster	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	In the farmhouse gardens
Wagtail, Cape	Kwikkie	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	Small numbers adjoining the pans
Wagtail, Yellow	Geelkwikkie	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Recorder 4 times, all on different pans
Warbler, Reed, Cape	Kaapse rietsanger	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	Reed pans and sedge bushes
Waxbill, Common	Rooibeksysie	<i>Estrilda trild</i>	Small flocks near sedge-lined pans
Weaver, Cape	Kaapse werwer	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>	Widespread
Weaver, Masked	Swartkeelgeelvink	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	Widespread - nests on fences and willow trees
White-eye, Cape	Kaapse glasogie	<i>Zosteropos pallidus</i>	Farm gardens
Whydah, Pintailed	Koningrooibekkie	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	Widely distributed
Widow, Longtailed	Langstertflap	<i>Euplectes progne</i>	Widespread seen all the time
Widow, Redshouldered	Kortstertflap	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>	Not common
Widow, Whitewinged	Witvlerkflap	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>	Grassy vleis