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SHORT NOTE

WELCOME SWALLOWS AT THE AUCKLAND ISLANDS

In early April 1983 I undertook a short tour of duty to the subantarctic islands in HMNZS *Otago*. On the approach to Enderby Island, in the Aucklands group, at 0930 on 11 April 1983, in company with P. Wilson and P. D. Gaze (Ecology Division, DSIR), we saw a flock of six Welcome Swallows flying towards the island. This was fairly close inshore at Sandy Bay, the weather being fair with some sun and little wind. Later, while ashore on Enderby Island I observed a single Welcome Swallow "hawking" overhead.

Dr M. W. Cawthorn (Fisheries Research Division, MAF), who was studying Hooker's Sealion on Enderby for 10 days before the above sightings, informs me that he had observed a flock of 20 Welcome Swallows working the cliffs and sward between East Bay and South East Point a few days earlier. He also had a record of the possible sighting of six swallows in the same area in late January 1982.

Apart from the 1943 record of the Welcome Swallow at the Auckland Islands mentioned in the New Zealand checklist and the field guide, these appear to be the only published records of the species at the Aucklands.

J. C. R. CLARIDGE, 17 Moana Road, Plimmerton