



YEN YI LOO

Ornithologist

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I am an early-career researcher in the field of ecology and behaviour.

My research is driven by evolutionary questions and patterns of life.

I take inspiration from birds and the way they live.

Present | PhD Candidate Biological Sciences

University of Auckland, New Zealand

A NZ government-funded doctoral project focussing on fundamental research surrounding the vocalizations of the Rifleman (tītīpounamu, *Acanthisitta chloris*). My thesis provides novel understanding of the vocal ontogeny and call functions in this basal Passerine species and challenges the theories on vocal learning.

QUALIFICATIONS

2017 | MSc Bird Conservation | Distinction

Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom

A student-directed Masters program, 1/3-research and 2/3-taught. I focused all my projects and coursework on bird biology and behaviour. Courses unite avian biology and conservation, research design, practical techniques, and ethno-ornithology. An overseas field course was undertaken in Poland.

Transcript and thesis available upon request

2015 | BSc (Hons) Environmental Science | 2:1

University of Nottingham, Malaysia

A multi-disciplinary undergraduate honours program expanding on the fields of environmental management, GIS and remote sensing, tropical ecology, conservation science, global environmental processes, and science writing. I published a review paper during my first year, and participated in 2 tropical field courses before conducting a honours research project in my final year.

Transcript and thesis available upon request

RESEARCH

Ornithology

2018-present | PhD project – Vocal and breeding behaviour of *A. chloris*

Boundary Stream Mainland Island Reserve, New Zealand

Skillset: New Zealand bird identification, locating elusive bird species, field recording, use of passive audio recorders and trail cameras, creating and using mobile applications for field data collection (AppSheet), data management, team management, training volunteers, research collaboration, mentoring, innovative problem solving, research design, and use of sound analysis software and R packages (Raven Pro, warbleR, Audacity), data analysis using R, publication, conference talks, teaching assistance

2017 | MSc project – Citizen science data and migration modelling of three Tyrant-flycatchers

Desk-based

Skillset: Use of species distribution modelling software (Maxent) and citizen science data (eBird, WikiAves)

2017 | MSc field course – Function of two song types in the Wood warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*)

Białowieża, Poland

Skillset: Field recording, species identification, playback experiment design, data analysis using R, presentation, teamwork

2015 | Hons project – Functional diversity of birds in an oil palm plantation

Selangor, Malaysia

Skillset: Tropical Asian bird identification, bird diversity surveying methods, collaboration with local bird experts, data management, data analysis using SPSS, conference talk

Ecology

2016 | Research Assistant – Elephant ecological dynamics

Belum-Temenggor Forest Complex, Malaysia

Skillset: Forest structure survey, fruit availability survey, field camping, teamwork, working with local indigenous peoples, herbarium processing, data management, publication

2014 | BSc field course – Dispersal ecology of terrestrial rodents

Krau Wildlife Reserve, Malaysia

Skillset: Experiment design, use of trail cameras, data management, teamwork, presentation

2013 | BSc field course – Tropical island ecology

Tioman Island, Malaysia

Skillset: Coral reef survey, fish survey, aquatic invertebrate survey, shore ecological succession survey, teamwork, data analysis, presentation

2013 | Intern – Leaf litter decomposition

North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest, Malaysia

Skillset: Forest structure analysis, sample preparation, teamwork

Education

2015 | Research Assistant – Innovative wildlife conservation education using games

University of Nottingham, Semenyih, Malaysia

Skillset: Data collection and verification, mentoring, teaching assistance, teamwork, publication

Mapping

2013 | Research Assistant – Putting the campus on the map using QGIS

University of Nottingham, Semenyih, Malaysia

Skillset: Use of QGIS software, ground-truthing, teamwork

CONFERENCES

2020 | Pre-recorded video – Animal Behavior Society Virtual Conference, United States
2020 | Abstract Accepted – World Congress on Ecoacoustics, Italy (postponed due to covid-19)
2019 | Oral Presentation – International Congress of Conservation Biology, Malaysia
2019 | Oral Presentation – Australasian Ornithological Conference, Australia
2015 | Oral Presentation – International Congress of Sustainable Initiatives, Malaysia

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

2020-Present | Animal Behavior Society
2018-Present | Birds New Zealand
2018-Present | Society of Conservation Biology
2016-2018 | Malayan Nature Society

LICENCES

2018-Present | New Zealand Level 1 Bander
2018-2020 | Outdoor First Aider
2011-Present | Full international driving licence

SPECIALIST SOFTWARE

Statistics | R
Acoustics | Raven Pro, WarbleR, Audacity, Syrinx
Mapping | QGIS, MapsMe, ArcGIS
Others | Microsoft Office, AppSheet, Zoom

ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Publications

- 2019 | First author in *Notornis* Short Note
[Grey warbler \(*Gerygone igata*\) aggressive behaviour towards rifleman \(*Acanthisitta chloris*\) fledglings](#)
- 2019 | Co-Author in *Notornis* Short Note
[Long-tailed cuckoo \(*Eudynamys taitensis*\) predation on rifleman \(*Acanthisitta chloris*\) nestlings](#)
- 2018 | Co-Author in *PeerJ* Research Article
[The effect of using games in teaching conservation](#)
- 2017 | Co-Author in *Malayan Nature Journal* Short Note
[Temiar Bird Names](#)
- 2015 | First author in *Geoscience Frontiers* Review
[Effect of climate change on seasonal monsoon in Asia and its impact on the variability of monsoon rainfall in Southeast Asia](#)

Scientific Paper Reviewer

- 2020 | *Notornis*
- 2019 | *Iheringia Zoology Series*
- 2019 | *Journal of Field Ornithology*
- 2018 | *Tropical Conservation Science*

Teaching Assistant

- 2020 | University of Auckland, School of Biological Sciences
Animal Behaviour, Undergraduate Year 3
- 2019 | University of Auckland, School of Biological Sciences
Animal Behaviour, Undergraduate Year 3
Adaptive Form & Function, Undergraduate Year 2
- 2018 | University of Auckland, School of Biological Sciences
Animal Behaviour, Undergraduate Year 3

Academic Mentor

- 2020-Present | University of Nottingham Alumni Career e-Mentor
- 2015 | Wildlife Conservation Course Mentor

University Open Day Ambassador

- 2019 | University of Auckland, School of Biological Sciences
- 2014 | University of Nottingham, Environmental Science

WORKSHOPS & SELF-LEARNING

Statistics courses

Nov 2018 | Bayes Workshop – Auckland University of Technology

Mar 2018 | Bayesian Analysis with JAGS and R – Biodiversity Conservation Society of Sarawak (BCSS)

Jan 2018 | Bootcamp on Wildlife Study Design and Data Analysis – BCSS

Coursera

2015 | Forests and Humans: From the Midwest to Madagascar – University of Wisconsin-Madison

Others

2016 | Climate Literacy (knowledge component) – Manchester Metropolitan University

LEADERSHIP & EXTRA-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

2015 | Member – University of Nottingham Fitness Club

2015 | Member – University of Nottingham Dance Club

2015 | Volunteer – University of Nottingham Green Week Event

2014 | Chair – University of Nottingham Basketball Competition

2012-2014 | Secretary – University of Nottingham Basketball Club

REFERENCE

Referee letters or contacts available upon request