Franklin’s Gull *Leucophaeus pipixcan* Wagler 1831, Vagrant (2)
July 1988 Raoul Island, Kermadec Islands

A black-hooded gull on Raoul Island, Kermadecs, photographed by Mike Fraser in July 1988 was identified as a Franklin’s Gull from photographs (Veitch et al. 2004).

A black-headed gull discovered by Dave York at Tomahawk Lagoon was immediately recognised as something unusual (Onley & Schweigman 2004). Its identification as a Franklin’s Gull was confirmed by Derek Onley, Alan Wright, Nick Allen and Peter Schweigman. It was last seen the next day on the 3rd July, frustrating other twitchers. This was unfortunate, as it had reportedly been in the area for a week and a half. The third found in Auckland in September 2009 proved very popular.

Franklin’s Gull has wandered to Europe, South Africa and Australia, as has the very similar Laughing Gull *L. atricilla.*