



Bulletin

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 61st annual general meeting of the Society will be held at the Student Union Building, Victoria University, Wellington, on Saturday 9 June, at 9 am.

AGENDA:

1. Apologies
2. Welcome
3. Declaration of councillors
4. Minutes of last A.G.M.
5. Annual Report and statement of Accounts.
6. Appointment of auditors.
7. Remits
 1. Alteration to Clause 8 in the Constitution regarding the number of councillors per branch.
 2. Alteration to Clause 8 of the Constitution regarding the number of council meetings per year.

Note: The annual report and statement of accounts is enclosed as a supplement to this issue.

COUNCIL MEETING:

A council meeting will follow, with the election of president, deputy president, treasurer, and ten executive councillors.

SLIDE COMPETITIONS

The winner of the Society's slide competitions for 1983 were as follows:

MOIRA COX MEMORIAL SLIDE COMPETITION

First: Ms Louise Young, 519 Nottingley Road, Hastings — "*Rainbow Bracket Fungi*"

Second: Mr L. Richards, 200 Bourke Street, Invercargill — "*Tuatara*"

N.Z. BIRD SLIDE COMPETITION

First: Mr B. Chudleigh, Main Road, R.D. 1, Katikati — "*Curlew Sandpiper*"

Second: Mr C. E. Barwell, 49 Gladstone Terrace, Invercargill — "*Fern Bird Chicks*"

SUPPLEMENTS

"This issue includes supplements. Bush Telegraph, Annual Report and Mail Order."

EXOTIC INTRUDERS

by Joan Druett

Why did all these exotic plants and animals arrive to disturb the indigenous balance achieved over millions of years. Who brought them here, and when?

The author has produced a book, that is unique to New Zealand, for almost nowhere else has such an invasion taken place in measurable and recorded time. Almost nowhere else has the flora and fauna of a land been overwhelmed by introductions both benign and downright malignant.

Chapters trace the intrusion — 'In the beginning' — from the Maori to the first real introduction by Cook of pigs and then by whalers of cats, and rats by which time the process was really under way.

'The agricultural invasion' — The transport of livestock, exotic plants and grasses to support the colonists of the 1840's began the avalanche. Then the next 60 years saw the Acclimatisation societies introducing all manner of species to satisfy the sportsmen, the homesick, and those who felt the world's species should be available to them in their new and 'ill provided' country.

So the chapters proceed up to the present day.

This book will answer all your questions — who brought in the gorse, the rabbits, the sparrows, the possums, the goats, the stoats, and why did they bring them in?

Did you know the llamas were unsuccessfully introduced in 1865 or that flukes and tapeworms arrived accidentally in bellies of sheep, dogs, cats, cattle and man?

Codlin moths arrived in barrels of wormy Tasmanian apples. It seems that Cook's men introduced the flea and head lice in 1769!

The book is large with 291 pages well illustrated with historic and past photos and drawings. It is written in a most readable form, with a rare sympathy for the perpetrators of past errors, it reports their activities with an admirable blandness. There is a good index — 'Let's see about aphids. Yes! there it is. What about ragwort and praying mantis? — there they are.'

Ronald Lockley has provided a very suitable preface.

In my view, this is a key work, and should be read by Society Members and the public alike. It is a hard book to lay aside, and yet it is a book of reference. How well the author has devised it!

Highly recommended.

DAVID COLLINGWOOD
Heinemann Publishers
(N.Z.)

\$29.95

Peter Scott —

TRAVEL DIARIES OF A NATURALIST

Edited by Miranda Weston-Smith

This is a beautiful book. How fortunate that Peter Scott has made his diaries available in this age of colour. I think of other famous diaries published, all tending to be boring, flat accounts lacking a visual quality and oozing egotism.

Here is Sir Peter Scott on his travels — Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, Africa, the Galapagos Islands, Antarctica and the Falkland Islands. His artistic sketches of species along his naturalistic way, flow in the margins and share whole pages with colour photos of places visited.

The New Zealand naturalists, Graham Turbott, Bob Falla and Gordon Williams pop out of the 'New Zealand 1956' diary as his companions on his close inspection of our natural history.

There is a photo of him in front of his mother's marble statue of his father — the great explorer, Robert Falcon Scott, — which stands in Christchurch. Then there is the calm account of the historic visit he made to his father's hut at Cape

Evans on Ross Island in Antarctica.

The world he describes and his experiences, told in his easy vernacular, sweeps us along. Can there be anyone who has been so immersed in Natural History and yet has travelled in the field of his choice with both the eye of the naturalist and the artist?

This diary is a work of sheer excellence and a wonderful record of a man's life and times.

Yet it has a figure 1 on the cover and one reads that it is drawn from only fifteen of the fifty notebooks covering his travels since 1956. So amazingly, there is a possibility of more to come in later volumes.

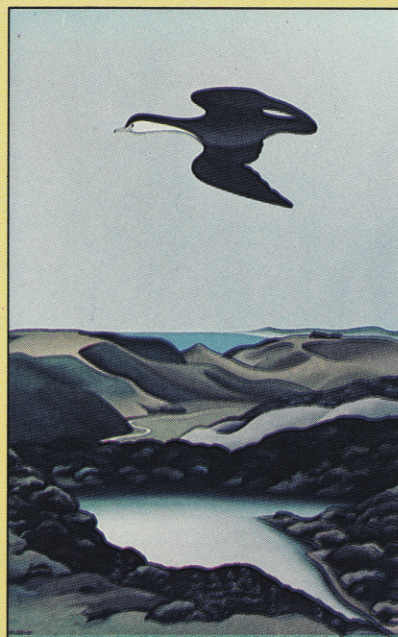
287 pages on art gloss paper, liberally illustrated and bound, this book was sent to me for review by Millwood Gallery, 291b Tinakori Road, Thorndon, Wellington, from whence it may be obtained.

A book by the first person ever to be knighted for services to conservation and the environment (1973) is one not to be overlooked. It is a work of brilliance and quality.

Excellent!

DAVID COLLINGWOOD

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Colour Prints

\$15⁵⁰ each

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Waitakere Ranges
Protection Society, Inc.

Please mail payment for
prints to

'Waitakere Ranges
Protection Society'
P.O. Box 68 Swanson
Auckland.

Kawaupaku, Te Henga

by Don Binney

an oil painting on board.

540 mm x 350 mm excluding border.