Books Received

Birds of New Zealand: Locality Guide, by Stuart Chambers (Arun Books). For wealth of detail about how to view New Zealand birds, there has not been a publication yet to match this one. Chambers approach is via the bird; for example, if you want to know where to find a spotless crake, then he provides the reader with a dozen locations throughout the country. The book also includes a section on special bird places and the list of species found there, plus suggested excursions. The weakness of the book is that most of the named locations are ones visited by the author, with a resulting bias towards the upper North Island and selected locations in the south.

New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants, by Patrick J Brownsey and John Smith-Dodsworth (David Bateman, \$89.95). A much needed and long awaited guide to all our native ferns – well worth the wait for such a comprehensive publication. Colour and black and white photography, line drawings and easily understood descriptions for each species combine to make fern identification possible for everyone. People interested in learning about our native flora will find this book excellent value. Latin names are used throughout but redundant and common ones are also listed.

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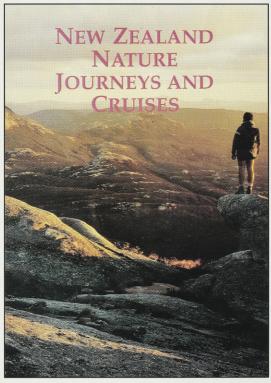
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