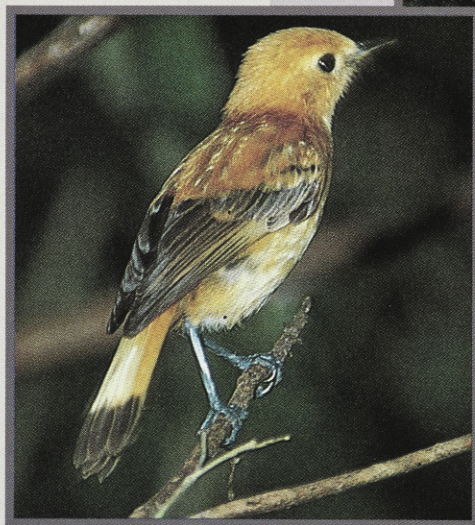


Join up a new member



....and qualify for the draw for a trip to the beautiful rainforests and tropical lagoons of the Cook Islands.

Forest and Bird is offering a chance for a free trip for two adults to Rarotonga (to be taken before 31 October 1991), including 7 days accommodation and air travel – if you sign up a new member by June 30, 1991.

You will stay in a pole bungalow set in gardens in the foothills of Rarotonga's spectacular mountain peaks.

Here is what Professor John Morton has written about Rarotonga: "The glory of Rarotonga is in its central crown of forest, with the panorama to be scanned in the half day's cross-island walk. In the Cook Islands, it is not too late to discover the old heritage, of which big pieces are still intact."

Walk in lush tropical rainforests • See the Rarotongan starling • The endangered kakarori

Just fill in the gift coupon in the back of the magazine and you could be in the draw for a holiday in Rarotonga.

Cover: An historic breakthrough in kakapo breeding occurred on Little Barrier Island in February when three chicks hatched – the first to survive since 1981. The chick in the photo – as yet unsexed and unnamed – was hatched weighing 27 grams. 26 days later, when the photo was taken, it weighed 723 grams, and by early May was an impressive 1.6 kg. It appears one of the keys to raising healthy chicks is the same diet that induced the adults to breed – nuts, apples, kumara – which mother John Girl assiduously fed her vulnerable nestling.

Photo: Rod Morris courtesy of DOC.