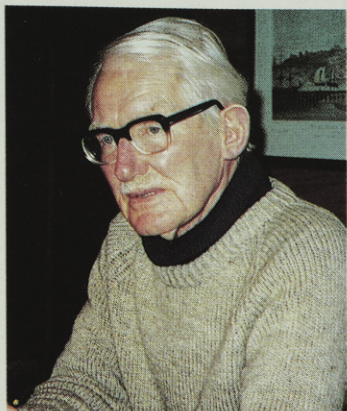




Obituary: John Jerram

JOHN VICKERS JERRAM died on 26 December aged 79.



He was the president of Forest and Bird from 1974 until 1976, a period of critical importance to the society. In 1974 the society had some 17,000 members. It operated from tiny premises in Wellington. It had for 19 years been run by a remarkable man, Roy Nelson, with the assistance of one full-time paid secretary.

The demands of the society and the urgency and increase of conservation issues meant great changes were to be inevitable. The task for John Jerram was to change the society from one run essentially by dedicated and gifted amateurs to one comprising a large section of our community served and directed by the fully professional organisation we know today.

John had all his life been a committed conservationist. He had been chairman of the Auckland Branch Committee, an active member of the campaign to save Lake Manapouri and a member of the Coromandel Forest Park Advisory Committee from 1970 to 1975.

John had a wide knowledge of the world and of business. Born in Wellington, he studied at Victoria University and joined the merchant house of Bing Harris Limited, of which he was to become a director. His interest in local body politics led to terms on the Eastbourne Borough Council and he became deputy mayor in 1950 to 1952.

By the time he became president he had retired to Taupo. This placed an added burden on

his energies, as much time had to be spent in Wellington. One of the major issues that greeted him was the emerging government Indigenous Forest Policy proposed at the Forestry Development conference held on the West Coast. The preservation of the West Coast beech forests was then to the forefront. It still is.

The society's first technical officer, to become the national conservation officer, was appointed. A large sum was raised to purchase Maud Island as a bird sanctuary. John's hope was that conservationists could speak with one voice on the great issues. He had a pretty pen and his editorials in *Forest & Bird* were written from the heart.

Forest and Bird was fortunate indeed to have had John Jerram to lead it at that critical time. He lived to enjoy retirement with his family and fishing. His passing is a loss to us all and we extend our sympathy to his family. *A.A.T. Ellis*

Help save the Rarotongan kakarori

GOING FOR A HOLIDAY in Rarotonga? Then you could help save the endangered kakarori.



Tereapo from the Cook Islands Conservation Service needs volunteers for the kakarori programme.

The Cook Islands Conservation Service needs volunteers for their programme to save this endangered bird. The pre-breeding survey is in August, and nest protection work will run from September to January. The kakarori is an endemic

flycatcher whose population has been reduced to a few dozen.

Tereapo and Eddie who run the programme need volunteers for at least a week at a time. The service runs on a shoestring and they cannot offer transport or accommodation. But they will give you an experience of a lifetime in the Rarotongan forests. Please contact the service (Box 371, Rarotonga; phone 21256) before you go so they can fit you into their programme.

Fleming Conservation Scholarships

FOREST AND BIRD provided \$10,200 this year for scholarships for research and conservation projects on native plants, animals and habitats. Twenty-one applicants received grants ranging from \$200 to \$700.

Waikato Branch conservation grant

APPLICATIONS ARE invited for a grant of approximately \$4,500 to support or assist with a conservation project during the summer of 1992-93.

There is no restriction as to the type of project eligible provided it contributes to the protection of the natural environment and/or its flora or fauna, though relevance to the Waikato-Coromandel area could be an advantage.

An acceptable proposal could involve: direct practical work such as acting as a wildlife warden or fencing bush; research relevant to conservation, whether in the field, laboratory or through the literature; an enterprise of an educational, journalistic or legal nature aimed at promoting good environmental principles; any combination of these or any other conservation-orientated activity.

For further details write to the Secretary, Forest and Bird, Waikato Branch, PO Box 11-092, Hillcrest, Hamilton. **Applications close 31 August.**

J.S. Watson Conservation Trust

THIS TRUST, administered by Forest and Bird, invites applications from individuals or conservation groups for financial assistance for conservation projects over the 1992-93 year.

The criteria for assistance are:

- the conservation of plants and animals and natural features of New Zealand;
- the advancement of knowledge in these matters by way of research, literary contribution, essay or articles, or other effort;
- general education of the public to give them an understanding and love of the earth in which they live.

A total of \$10,000 may be awarded to one or more applicants, or held over for a subsequent year.

For further details and application forms, write to the National Secretary, PO Box 631, Wellington. **Applications close 30 July.**

Ron D. and E.A. Greenwood Environmental Trust

THIS TRUST provides financial support for projects advancing the conservation and protection of New Zealand's natural resources, particularly flora and fauna, marine life, geology, atmosphere, and waters including the promotion of a wider care and understanding of such resources. More information is available from the trust at PO Box 10-359, Wellington.

Back issues of Forest & Bird

WHILE WE KNOW that most members treasure their old copies of the magazine, there may come a time when you don't want them cluttering up the spare room. Back issues are useful to us so if you don't want them please send them to the Membership Secretary, PO Box 631, Wellington.