

FOREST & BIRD

Forest & Bird is published every February, May, August and November by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc.

The society's objectives are to preserve and protect the indigenous flora and fauna and natural features and landscapes of New Zealand for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit of all people. *Forest and Bird* is a member of the World Conservation Union and of Birdlife International.

• Registered at PO Headquarters Wellington as a magazine. ISSN 0015-7384

Editor: GORDON ELL

The Bush Press, PO Box 33-029, Takapuna 1309.

Telephone & fax: (09) 486-2667

Email: bush.press@clear.net.nz

Design: Nic Glassford, Microdot

Prepress production: Microdot

Printing: Business Printing Group

Advertising: Peg Mackay,

Print Advertising Ltd, PO Box 27-194, Wellington.

Ph: (04) 801-6187 Fax: (04) 801-6261

Email: peg@printad.co.nz

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand

General Manager: Lyn Bates

Conservation Director: Kevin Smith

Central Office: 172 Taranaki St, Wellington.

Postal address: PO Box 631, Wellington.

Telephone: (04) 385-7374, Fax: (04) 385-7373

Email: office@wn.forest-bird.org.nz

Web site: <http://www.forest-bird.org.nz>

Field Officers

Suite 207, 2nd Floor, cnr Elliot & Wellesley Sts.

PO Box 106085, Downtown, Auckland.

Tel: (09) 303-3079. Fax: (09) 303-3514.

Ann Graeme, KCC co-ordinator, 53 Princess Rd,

Tauranga. Tel: (07) 576-5593. Fax: (07) 576-5109.

Eugenie Sage, PO Box 2516, Christchurch.

Tel: (03) 366-6317. Fax: (03) 366-0655.

Sue Maturin, PO Box 6230, Dunedin.

Tel: (03) 477-9677. Fax: (03) 477-5232.

Executive Committee

President: Keith Chapple

Deputy President: Bill Gilbertson

Treasurer: David Underwood

Linda Conning, Philip Hart, Peter Maddison,

Diane Menzies, Chris Peterson, Jocelyn Watkin,

Peter White

Distinguished Life Members

Dr Bill Ballantine, Stan Butcher, Audrey Eagle, Dr

Alan Edmonds, Gordon Ell, Justice Tony Ellis, Stewart

Gray, Les Henderson, Reg Jones, Joan Leckie, Prof

Alan Mark, Stuart McKenzie, Dr Gerry McSweeney,

Prof John Morton, Margaret Peace, Guy Salmon,

Gordon Stephenson, David Underwood.

For details of the Society's branches see Branch Directory inside back cover. The opinions of contributors to *Forest & Bird* are not necessarily those of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, nor its editor. *Forest & Bird* is printed on Media Gloss, a chlorine-free paper sourced from sustainably managed European forests.



FOREST
& BIRD

Features

14 The Complex of Mega Mania

Exploring a newly discovered cave system.

by Neil Silverwood

18 The Waning of Weka

Members try to save the vanishing weka.

by Ann and Basil Graeme

22 Replanting Coromandel Kauri

A millennium projects looks ahead 1000 years.

by Marios Gavalas

24 Life in the Beech Forest

An artist paints the birds, wildlife, and plants.

by Ronald Cometti

26 What Cook Saw

Early records of pre-European wildlife.

by Mike Lee

30 Masses of Mosses

Taking a closer look at their great variety.

by Jo Mackay

34 A Fresh Look at Marine Reserves

Plans to review marine reserves legislation.

by Jo Mackay

Regulars

2 Comment

Managing our native lands.

3 Mailbag

4 Conservation Briefs

Kokako recovery plan; Te Urewera projects; conservationists honoured; new NZCA member; executive elected; restoration on Waiheke; kiwi road signs; Tararua bats; Wellington parks; beech forest painting; Nicky Hager.

38 In the Field

Going easy on the Earth

40 Branching Out

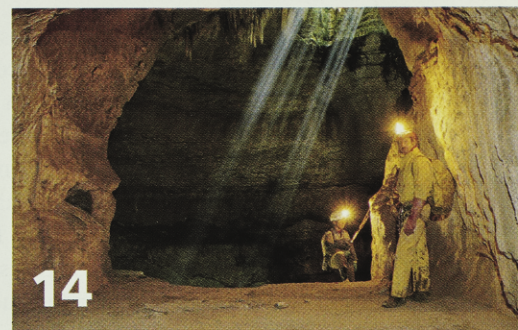
Success with legal appeals; tunnel painting; Earth Day 2000; Wairarapa forest; 'Old Blue' awards.

43 Bulletin

New executive members; kereru campaign.

48 Book Reviews

49 Branch Directory



Cover: Strange limestone caveforms (anthildites) discovered in Kahurangi National Park, see feature page 14. PHOTOGRAPH: NEIL SILVERWOOD