

## NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION MONOGRAPH 11: Atholl Anderson (ed.), *Birds of a Feather: Osteological and Archaeological Papers from the South Pacific in Honour of R.J. Scarlett*



This document is made available by The New Zealand Archaeological Association under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/

# **BIRDS OF A FEATHER**

## edited by Atholl Anderson

New Zealand Archaeological Association Monograph II

BAR International Series 62 1979

#### AVIFAUNA AND MAN

#### R. J. Scarlett\*

(The slightly revised text of a paper presented at the New Zealand Archaeological Association Conference, Dunedin, 17-23 May, 1969. Summary added by J. C. Yaldwyn)

At the 39th ANZAAS Congress in Melbourne, 1967, I presented a paper on "Moa and Man in New Zealand" (Scarlett 1974), and therefore I omit a detailed analysis of Moa remains at the sites discussed in the present paper, merely noting where they are present. The treatment given here is selective. From the many sites associated with Man from which I have now determined bird remains, I have selected some from each area, beginning in the far north and ending in Stewart Island.

At the outset, I will mention the difficulty, when dealing with "weathered out" middens in sand-dunes and beach areas, of being certain that every bone represented is contemporaneous with the midden, as birds still die on beaches, or are washed up as dead bodies. In the lists, I have included from such sites only those species of which there is reasonable certainty that their presence was due to the activity of Man. This can often be inferred from the state of the bone. Mammalian remains and fish are also listed. Systematic names are given only the first time a species is listed and follow those used by the Checklist Committee (1970). The reader is referred to "Bones for the New Zealand Archaeologist" (Scarlett 1972) for comments on the identification of archaeological bones in New Zealand.

I begin in Northland. From <u>Spirits Bay</u> in January 1961 Bob Jolly collected bones of:

Sooty Shearwater, <u>Puffinus griseus</u> North Island Weka, <u>Gallirallus australis greyi</u> Black-backed Gull, <u>Larus dominicanus</u> North Island Kaka, Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis

as well as a few undetermined bones of other birds, Moa and seal.

Jack Grant-Mackie in January 1966 collected bones of:

Northern Blue Penguin, <u>Eudyptula minor</u> subsp. Fluttering Shearwater, Puffinus gavia

To this list I added in February 1968:

Moa, <u>Euryapteryx</u> <u>exilis</u> Seal, (probably Southern Fur Seal), ? Arctocephalus forsteri

\*Published with Scarlett's general permission, but without him knowing where it would appear. Ed.

From Tom Bowling Bay Trevor Hosking in 1965, Jack Grant-Mackie and others in 1966 and 1967, and Jack and myself in February 1968, have gathered many bones. A composite list of species follows: those with an asterisk Jack and I also gathered at the adjacent Waikuku Beach.

\*North Island Kiwi, Apteryx australis mantelli Little Spotted Kiwi, Apteryx oweni (extinct in North Island) \*Northern Blue Penguin Albatross, Diomedia sp. (uncertain if Royal or Wandering) \*Mollymawk, Diomedia cauta subsp. Cook's Petrel, Pterodroma cooki \*Fairy Prion, Pachyptila turtur Broad-billed Prion, Pachyptila vittata Various other prions (Pacyptila spp.) not determinable to species \*Sooty Shearwater Buller's Shearwater, Puffinus bulleri \*Fluttering Shearwater \*Short-tailed Shearwater, Puffinus tenuirostris Little Shearwater (?North Island subsp.) Puffinus assimilis? haurakiensis Diving Petrel, Pelecanoides urinatrix Gannet, Sula bassana serrator Pied Shag, Phalacrocorax varius Black Shag, Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae \*White Heron, Egretta alba modesta \*Royal Spoonbill, Platalea leucorodia regia (association with midden uncertain) Grey Duck, Anas superciliosa Other ducks, not determined \*Large Harrier, the North Island form of Circus eylesi (extinct) \*N.Z. Quail, Coturnix novaezealandiae (recently extinct) \*North Island Weka Little Weka, Gallirallus minor (extinct) Falla's Rail, Capellirallus karamu (extinct) North Island Takahe, Notornis mantelli mantelli (extinct) \*Variable Oystercatcher, Haematopus unicolor Banded Dotterel, Charadrius bicinctus \*Black-backed Gull \*Red-billed Gull, Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus Caspian Tern, Hydroprogne caspia White-fronted Tern, Sterna striata \*N.Z. Pigeon, Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae \*Kakapo, Strigops habroptilus North Island Kaka Red-crowned Parakeet, Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae Morepork, Ninox novaeseelandiae Barn Owl, Tyto alba subsp. (several individuals, association with midden uncertain) Bellbird, Anthornis melanura Tui, Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae

\*North Island Kokako, Callaeas cinerea wilsoni

76

\*N.Z. Crow, <u>Palaeocorax moriorum</u> (extinct) Moa, <u>Dinornis struthoides</u> Moa, <u>Euryapteryx exilis</u> Moa, <u>Euryapteryx curtus</u> (other species of Moa have also been found at Tom Bowling Bay) Polynesian Dog or Kuri, <u>Canis familiaris</u> \*Polynesian Rat or Kiore, <u>Rattus exulans</u> \*Tuatara, <u>Sphenodon punctatus</u> Seal and fish not determined

This gives a total of 42 plus birds, other than Moa, associated with Man, for Tom Bowling Bay.

To those already listed for Waikuku Beach can be added:

Buller's Mollymawk, <u>Diomedea bulleri</u> Harrier, <u>Circus approximans gouldi</u> ?Eastern Bar-tailed Godwit, ?<u>Limosa lapponica baueri</u> ?Skua, ?<u>Stercorarius sp.</u> Black-fronted Tern, <u>Chlidonias hybrida albostriatus</u>

a total of 26 certain and two probable species.

From the important site of <u>Houhora</u>, N6/4, where for five enjoyable weeks I helped with the excavation, the number of species was less numerous. As I have not examined the bones, other than the Moa, in detail, I will mention only the New Zealand Swan <u>Cygnus summerensis</u> (the presence of this extinct bird at Houhora extended the known range greatly as the furthest north it had been found previously was in Hawkes Bay) and the extinct N.Z. Crow. The Moas at Houhora were <u>Anomalopteryx didiformis</u> (rare), <u>Euryapteryx curtus</u> and <u>E</u>. <u>exilis</u> (both abundant), <u>E</u>. geranoides (rare), <u>Dinornis struthoides</u> and <u>D</u>. <u>giganteus</u> (rare as bones, but many of the fish-hooks were made from <u>Dinornis</u>). C14 dates range from 556  $\pm$  55 years B.P. (about 1394 A.D.) to 796  $\pm$  56 years B.P. (about 1154 A.D.).

Moving down to the Coromandel Peninsula, the species represented at the various sites at Opito and Sarah's Gully are:

(O = Opito; S.G. = Sarah's Gully)

Little Spotted Kiwi (extinct in North Island)	0.	
Northern Blue Penguin	0.	S.G.
Albatross, Diomedea sp.	0.	S.G.
Mollymawk, Diomedea cauta subsp.	0.	S.G.
Mollymawk, Diomedea sp.	0.	S.G.
Grey-faced Petrel, Pterodroma macroptera		
gouldi		S.G.
Fairy Prion	0.	S.G.
Prion, Pachyptila sp.		S.G.
Flesh-footed Shearwater, Puffinus carneipes	11	
hullianus	0.	
Sooty Shearwater	0.	S.G.
Fluttering Shearwater	0.	

Other shearwaters, Puffinus spp.	0.	S.G.
White-faced Storm petrel, Pelagodroma		
marina maoriana	0.	
Northern Diving Petrel	0.	
Other petrels, not determined	0.	
Various shags, not specifically identified	0.	
Paradise Duck, Tadorna variegata		S.G.
Grey Duck	0.	S.G.
N.Z. Shoveler, Anas rhynchotis variegata	0.	
Duck, Anas sp.	0.	
North Island Weka	0.	S.G.
Stilt, <u>Himantopus</u> sp.		S.G.
Black-backed Gull	0.	S.G.
N.Z. Pigeon	о.	
North Island Kaka	0.	S.G.
Pipit, Anthus novaeseelandiae		S.G.
Tui		S.G.
North Island Kokako		S.G.
N.Z. Crow (extinct)	0.	S.G.
Moa, Dinornis giganteus	0.	S.G.
Moa, Dinornis struthoides	0.	S.G.
Moa, Euryapteryx geranoides	0.	
Moa, Euryapteryx exilis	0.	
Elephant Seal, Mirounga leoninus	0.	
Southern Fur Seal	0.	S.G.
Kuri	0.	
Kiore	0.	
Tuatara	0.	S.G.
Snapper, Chrysophrys auratus	0.	S.G.
Whale, not determined to genus	0.	

A total of 20 birds, other than Moa, for the Opito sites and 23 for Sarah's Gully. For Skipper's midden, Opito (N 40/3), we have a C14 date of  $654 \pm 50$  years B.P. (about 1296 A.D.) and for the main site at Sarah's Gully, (N 40/9), about a mile away over a hill, dates of  $621 \pm 50$  years B.P. (about 1329 A.D.) and  $664 \pm 50$  years B.P. (about 1286 A.D.) showing that the two main sites were contemporaneous.

For Taranaki, I choose site N 128/3, <u>Kaupokonui</u>, excavated by Alistair Buist and associates. N 129/77, Ohawe, also excavated by Alistair and the adjacent Te Rangatapu sites, also contained much bird bone, including Moa, but time necessitates their omission.

North Island Kiwi Little Spotted Kiwi (extinct in North Island) Northern Blue Penguin (?Fairy) Prion Diving Petrel (?Black) Shag Shag, <u>Phalacrocorax</u> sp. Spotted Shag, <u>Stictocarbo</u> <u>punctatus</u> <u>punctatus</u> Grey Duck Blue Duck, Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos Four other ducks (one a teal or scaup) not identified to species Large Harrier (extinct) Giant Rail, Aptornis otidiformis (extinct) Hodgen's Rail, Capellirallus hodgeni (extinct) North Island Takahe (extinct) Black-backed Gull (?Red-billed) Gull (it is impossible to separate the Red and Black-billed Gulls on any bones other than the bill) N.Z. Pigeon Kakapo North Island Kaka Red-crowned Parakeet Tui Huia, Heteralocha acutirostris (recently extinct) North Island Kokako N.Z. Crow (extinct) Moa, Dinornis giganteus Moa, Dinornis struthoides Moa, Dinornis gazella Moa, Pachyornis mappini Moa, Pachyornis septentrionalis Moa, ?Euryapteryx geranoides Kuri Kiore Southern Fur Seal Fish (not identified)

A total of 28 birds, other than Moa. The Ohawe site also contained Takahe, <u>Aptornis</u>, and Huia. Note that fewer species of Petrels were found than in more northern sites. There is a C14 date for Kaupokonui of 570 years B.P. (about 1380 A.D.).

The final North Island site is N 160/50, <u>Paremata</u>, on the Wellington coast, excavated by Janet Davidson and E. D. Sinclair and a small amount by the late Walter Carkeek. The bones are in the National Museum, Wellington.

North Island Kiwi

Little Spotted Kiwi (extinct in North Island)

Northern Blue Penguin

Fiordland Crested Penguin, <u>Eudyptes pachyrhynchus pachyrhynchus</u> (?Erect-crested) Penguin, Edyptes pachyrhynchus ?sclateri

Southern Crested Grebe, <u>Podiceps cristatus australis</u> (this is the third occurrence known to me of this in association with Man. Trevor Hosking had it in his Whakamoenga Cave site, Taupo (see Leahy 1976), and it was found at Marfell Beach, Lake Grassmere)

Mollymawk, Diomedia cauta subsp.

(? Buller's) Mollymawk

(?Broad-billed) Prion

Fluttering Shearwater (both <u>P</u>. gavia and the closely allied Hutton's Shearwater P. huttoni are found on the Wellington coast)

Shearwater, Puffinus sp. Black Shag (?Little) Shag, Phalacrocorax ? melanoleucos Shag, Phalacrocorax sp. Spotted Shag N.Z. Swan, Cygnus sumnerensis (extinct) N.Z. Goose, Cnemiornis calcitrans (extinct) Grev Duck Blue Duck Duch (teal or scaup), Anas sp. Duck, Anas sp. Harrier Large Harrier (extinct) Falcon, Falco novaeseelandiae Banded Rail, Rallus philippensis North Island Weka Little Weka (extinct) (? Falla's) Rail (extinct) North Island Takahe (extinct) Giant Rail (extinct) Ovstercatcher, Haematopus sp. (? Antarctic) Skua, Stercorarius skua ? maccormicki Black-backed Gull N.Z. Pigeon Kakapo North Island Kaka Red-crowned Parakeet Parakeet, Cyanoramphus sp. Laughing Owl, Sceloglaux albifacies (probably extinct) Tui North Island Kokako N.Z. Crow (extinct) Moa, Eurapteryx gravis (represented by a " reel" possibly imported from Wairua Bar) Moa, Euryapteryx geranoides Moa, Dinornis giganteus Moa, Dinornis struthoides Moa, Dinornis novaezealandiae Moa, Pachyornis mappini Moa, Anomalopteryx didiformis Kuri Kiore Southern Fur Seal (probably other seals are represeted also) Cetacean, not determined Tuatara

Total birds, other than Moa, 43. There is a C14 date of  $547 \pm 48$  years B.P. (about 1413 A.D.) for Paremata. Judging from the various levels reported by Janet Davidson, the site was probably occupied over a considerable period, and this single date is not to be taken as indicating either the earliest or latest occupation of the site.

Turning now to the South Island, Marfell Beach, S 29/8, is an area of several acres of sand dune at the north-east corner of Lake Grassmere, Marlborough. Artifacts of apparently early Maori manufacture were collected by C. H. Robson, as well as Moa bones, in the vicinity in the 1870s. Much of the coast-line west from Cape Campbell was occupied by both early (Moahunter) and later Maori settlements. In the 1940s Jim Eyles and Roger Duff, and later Elliot Dawson, Lew Gurr, and Jack and Ruby Britton collected bones from the dunes at Marfell Beach. In July 1952, I was, so far as I know, the first to uncover part of the actual ash midden layer. Briefly the sequence is as follows: a damp fine sea-gravel layer, on which when exposed by wind erosion, rotten skeletons of Moa are occasionally found. These crumble at the touch. Over this the dunes are formed. Between the gravel and the earliest occupation layer, occasional bones occur including those of Dinornis robustus, which apparently died out before man came to the district, as so far remains of this species have not been found in the human occupational levels. The midden varies, from a shallow 6 or 8 inches in the part where I first excavated (here the bones were in "pockets", with large areas of sterile ash between them), to a much more heavily concentrated deposit, two to three feet thick, with an uneven base, but a level top. Above this are dunes of varying heights now largely overgrown by Marram grass. These contain bone, haangi and artifacts. Some at least of the ovens are of Moa-hunter origin, as indicated by the Moa bones found around them.

In the following list I have included bones from the sand above the midden, which I consider to have been derived from the occupation layer by wind plantation.

South Island Kiwi, Apteryx australis australis Northern Blue Penguin Fiordland Crested Penguin Southern Crested Grebe N.Z. Dabchick, Podiceps rufopectus Mollymawk, Diomedia sp. White-headed Petrel, Pterodroma lessoni Petrel, Pterodroma sp. Fairy Prion Prion, Pachyptila sp. Sooty Shearwater Fluttering Shearwater Short-tailed Shearwater Shearwater, Puffinus sp. White-faced Storm petrel **Diving** Petrel N.Z. Pelican, Pelicanus conspicillatus novaezealandiae (extinct) Black Shag Little Shag, Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris Shag, Phalocrocorax sp. King Shag, Leucocarbo carunculatus carunculatus Spotted Shag N.Z. Swan (extinct) N.Z. Goose (extinct)

Paradise Duck Grev Duck Grey Teal, Anas gibberifrons gracilis Brown Teal, Anas aucklandica chlorotis N.Z. Scaup, Aythya novaeseelandiae Finsch's Duck, Euryanas finschi (extinct) Australian Musk Duck, Biziura lobata Merganser, Mergus sp. (extinct) several other ducks, Anas spp. N.Z. Eagle, Harpagornis moorei (extinct) Harrier Large Harrier, Circus eylesi (extinct) Falcon N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Banded Rail Weka, Gallirallus australis subsp. Little Weka (extinct) Hodgen's Rail (extinct) South Island Takahe, Notornis mantelli hochstetteri Giant Rail (extinct) several small rails, Rallus sp. (extinct) N.Z. Coot, Nesophalaris chathamensis (extinct) (?Asiatic) Whimbrel, Numenius phaeopus ? variegatus Eastern Bar-tailed Godwit Snipe, Coenocorypha sp. Pied Stilt, Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus Skua, Stercorarius skua subsp. Black-backed Gull Red-billed Gull Caspian Tern White-fronted Tern Tern, Sterna sp. N.Z. Pigeon Kakapo South Island Kaka, Nestor meridionalis meridionalis Small Kaka, Nestor sp. (extinct) Red-crowned Parakeet Parakeet, Cyanoramphus sp. Morepork Laughing Owl (probably extinct) South Island Robin, Petroica australis australis Tui Saddleback, Philesturnus carunculatus South Island Kokako, Callaeas cinerea cinerea South Island Thrush, Turnagra capensis capensis N.Z. Crow (extinct) Moa, Emeus crassus Moa, Euryapteryx gravis Moa, Anomalopteryx didiformis Kuri

Kiore Southern Fur Seal Elephant Seal Tuatara Fish, unidentified

A total of 71 plus birds, other than Moa. The great number of water fowl is easily explained by the proximity of the Lake, but the numerous bush birds indicate extensive forest cover much closer to the site than is the case today.

By contrast with this extensive list, that from the only South Island West Coast site so far excavated, the <u>Heaphy River</u> encampment (S 7/1) is very short, which is rather surprising when one considers the large numbers of subfossil species in the adjacent limestone caves.

Kiwi, <u>Apteryx</u> sp.
Southern Blue Penguin, <u>Eudyptula minor minor</u>
Fiordland Crested Penguin
Mollymawk, <u>Diomedia cauta</u> subsp.
Allied Shearwater, <u>Puffinus assimilis</u> subsp. (one bone)
Pied Shag
(small) Shag, <u>Phalacrocorax</u> sp.
N.Z. Pigeon
South Island Kaka
Small Kaka (extinct)
Tui
Moa, <u>Anomalopteryx didiformis</u>
Moa, ?<u>Dinornis robustus</u>
Kuri
Southern Fur Seal

The absence of Rat in the midden was striking. There was plenty of it in the adjacent caves. Eleven birds present, apart from Moa. Our one C14 date from the site,  $573 \pm 70$  years B.P. (about 1377 A.D.) which came from a shell sample, represents neither the earliest nor the latest phase of occupation, but, I think, somewhere about the middle of it.

Site S 49/20, <u>Whaler's Bay Cave</u>, Kaikoura, excavated by the Canterbury Museum Archaeological Society mainly in 1968, is of fairly late occupation. The faunal content was identified as follows:

South Island Kiwi Little Spotted Kiwi Blue Penguin, <u>Eupyptula minor</u> subsp. Fiordland Crested Penguin Albatross, <u>Diomedea</u> sp. Buller's Mollymawk Mollymawk, <u>Diomedea</u> <u>cauta</u> subsp. Betrel, <u>Pterodroma</u> ? <u>hypoleuca</u> subsp. White-chinned Petrel, <u>Procellaria</u> <u>aequinoctialis</u> <u>steadi</u> Sooty Shearwater (? Hutton's) Shearwater, <u>Puffinus</u> ? <u>huttoni</u>

Diving Petrel (?Black) Shag Little Shag Spotted Shag Swan, Cygnus sp. (this is a puzzle, it is neither the extinct  $\underline{C}$ . summerensis nor the Black Swan C.atratus) Paradise Duck Grey Duck Grey Teal Harrier N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Weka, Gallirallus australis subsp. Pukeko, Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus Black-backed Gull (? Red-billed) Gull Black-fronted Tern White-fronted Tern South Island Kaka Laughing Owl (probably extinct) South Island Robin Tui Moa, fragments of subfossil material, not identified to genus Kuri Kio re Southern Fur Seal Fish, various species

A total of 30 birds. Less certainly associated with the midden were bones of the Reef Heron, <u>Egretta sacra</u> collected by Owen Wilkes in 1963.

Site S 84/46, <u>Bromley</u>, Christchurch, a small Moa-hunter occupation area (I think fairly late) excavated between 1963 and 1965 by the Canterbury Museum Archaeological Society, had bones of the following species represented. The site lies on the north side of the Heathcote estuary, in dunes. Rather strangely, no ducks or petrels were present.

(?Blue or White-flippered) Penguin, <u>Eudyptula</u> sp. (?Erect-crested) Penguin Black Shag Spotted Shag N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Weka, <u>Gallirallus australis</u> subsp. Australian Coot, <u>Fulica atra australis</u> N.Z. Pigeon ?Fernbird, ?<u>Bowdleria punctata</u> Moa, <u>Euryapteryx gravis</u> Kuri Southern Fur Seal Cetacean, bones not determined as to genus

A total of nine birds other than Moa.

Site S 111/1, Dashing Rocks, Timaru, contained the following species:

Albatross, <u>Diomedia</u> sp. (?Fluttering) Shearwater Black Shag Grey Duck small Duck (a teal or scaup), <u>Anas</u> sp. N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Small Kaka (extinct) ?Tui Moa, too broken for identification Kuri Seal, not identified

A total of eight birds, other than Moa.

An inland rock shelter, now under the water of Benmore Dam, S 109/9, <u>Shepherd's Creek II</u>, Waitaki Gorge, was excavated by Graeme Mason and myself in late 1964. Jan Hjarnø assisted for two days.

Mottled Petrel, Pterodroma inexpectata Paradise Duck Grey Duck Blue Duck Duck, Anas sp. Falcon N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Weka, Gallirallus australis subsp. Little Weka (extinct) Black-backed Gull Black-fronted Tern White-fronted Tern South Island Kaka Small Kaka (extinct) Red-crowned Parakeet Parakeet, Cyanoramphus sp. Laughing Owl (probably extinct) Pipit South Island Robin Saddleback South Island Kokako South Island Thrush Moa, Euryapteryx gravis, eggshell only, mainly in the moa nests we found. Possibly ante-dates Man, although it appeared to be contemporaneous with the lower occupation. Moa, Megalapteryx didinus, bone and eggshell Kuri Kiore Bat, species not yet determined Fish, not determined

The paradise Duck, White-fronted Tern, and Black-backed Gull were still present during our visit. Even if some of the bush birds found were brought from elsewhere as is possible, the climate must have differed vastly from the arid, dessicated region it is today. Sparrow, Goldfinch, Song Thrush, and Blackbird had died in the rock shelter also, and their bones were present on the surface and just into layer 1. Bones of Skink and Gecko were also present, but they were plentiful as living animals in the rocks near the site, and their presence may have nothing to do with Man. It is possible that Man's occupation was seasonal and that the considerable depth of <u>Euryapteryx</u> nest material, which contained much dung and broken eggshell, was deposited during a period of the year when Man was absent.

Site S 136/2, <u>Ototara</u>, a few miles from the sea near Teschemaker's, North Otago, excavated by Michael Trotter, had bones of the following species:

Yellow-eyed Penguin, Megadyptes antipodes Prion, Pachyptila sp. Diving Petrel (?Black) Shag Shag, Phalacrocorax sp. N.Z. Swan (extinct) N.Z. Goose (extinct) Paradise Duck Grey Duck Duck (teal), Anas sp. Duck, Anas sp. N.Z. Shoveler Harrier Falcon N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Pukeko South Island Takahe Black-billed Gull White-fronted Tern N.Z. Pigeon Red-crowned Parakeet Morepork Laughing Owl (probably extinct) Moa, Euryapteryx gravis Kuri Kiore

A total of 23 birds, other than Moa. The C14 date for the site is  $561 \pm 32$  years B.P. (about 1389 A.D.).

<u>Duckworth Midden</u>, Long Island, Dusky Sound, in what appears to have been an occasional site used by coasting Maori, was situated on a rock platform. The midden was practically all along the lip, among trees which had since grown there, about 50 feet up from the sea, with forest below and sheltered by a high cliff at the back. It was found by John Hall-Jones on Nigel Duckworth's March 1965 trip, when a few bones were removed, and in March 1966, on Duckworth's second expedition, was excavated under my supervision.

The bones represented were:

Southern Blue Penguin Fiordland Crested Penguin Fairy Prion Prion, Pachyptila sp. Fluttering Shearwater Diving Petrel Pied Shag Little Shag N.Z. Quail (recently extinct) Western Weka, Gallirallus australis australis N.Z. Pigeon South Island Kaka South Island Kokako Moa, Euryapteryx gravis, one piece of femur and two pieces of tibio-tarsus, probably a haunch taken round from Southland. Kuri

Kiore Southern Fur Seal Fish, not identified

A total of 13 birds, excluding the Moa. Most of them, except the Quail, which became extinct last century, can be found in Dusky Sound today. From the appearance of the bones, they might have been killed a few days before excavation.

The <u>Native Island</u> midden, S 189/1, Stewart Island, has not yet been excavated. The following bones were surface collected by myself in 1954 and by Baden Norris in 1961 and 1963. They indicate the rich potential of the site.

Southern Blue Penguin Yellow-eyed Penguin Mollymawk, Diomedia cauta subsp. (?Buller's) Mollymawk Mollymawk, Diomedia sp. Broad-billed Prion Sooty Shearwater Fluttering Shearwater Southern Diving Petrel, Pelecanoides urinatrix chathamensis Little Shag Stewart Island Shag, Leucocarbo carunculatus chalconotus Blue Shag, Stictocarbo punctatus steadi N.Z. Swan (extinct) (?Brown) Teal Stewart Island Weka, Gallirallus australis scotti Little Weka (extinct) Black-backed Gull Red-billed Gull Small Kaka (extinct) Laughing Owl (probably extinct) N.Z. Crow (extinct) Moa, Euryapteryx gravis Kuri Southern Fur Seal

### Kuri Southern Fur Seal

The birds total 21 species, plus three more not as yet identified.

The final site is <u>Old Neck</u>, S 189/4, Stewart Island. The following bones were surface collected from midden material weathered out from the sand dune by myself in 1954, Baden Norris in 1962, Olga Sanson in 1964 and by Les Lockerbie in 1959. I have not seen Les's excavated bones as yet, except the Moa, but expect that they will add still more species to the list.

Stewart Island Kiwi, Apteryx australis lawryi Southern Blue Penguin Yellow-eyed Penguin Fiordland Crested Penguin Mollymawk, Diomedia sp. Fairy Prion Broad-billed Prion Sooty Shearwater Fluttering Shearwater Shearwater, Puffinus sp. Southern Diving Petrel Little Shag Stewart Island Shag Blue Shag (?Brown) Teal Duck, Anas sp. Banded Rail Stewart Island Weka Little Weka (extinct) Variable Ovstercatcher Black-backed Gull N.Z. Pigeon South Island Kaka Small Kaka (extinct) South Island Kokako Moa, Euryapteryx n.sp., abundant, found also in the Murihiku area of the South Island Kuri Kiore

Southern Fur Seal Sea Lion, <u>Otaria hookeri</u>

Lockerbie's excavated Moa contained some <u>Eurapteryx</u> gravis, abundant material of the new small <u>Euryapteryx</u> and one femur of <u>Anomalopteryx</u> <u>didi</u><u>formis</u>.

The total of bird species, other than Moa, is 25, plus six others not as yet identified.

A bird rarely found in association with Man, the Giant Rail, <u>Aptornis</u> <u>otidiformis</u>, was recorded by von Haast at Moa Point Cave, Redcliffs. A few bones occurred in middens adjacent to the Cave, and Michael Trotter found some in his Katiki excavations. Thus we have a picture of man exploiting all the animal resources of his environment, including shellfish, not mentioned in this paper, but abundant in many of the sites. The complementary resources, such as fruits and berries, as well as vegetables, rarely leave traces, except in the form of pits, which in many cases were presumably for storage. At Sarah's Gully, for instance, we found comparatively shallow rectangular pits, with drains, and the bottoms covered with fine white shell sand from the beach, which probably served such a purpose. The bell shaped <u>Rua</u> are more obviously storage pits.

What is certain, from the faunal remains, is that the Polynesian population of these islands found almost every bird and animal edible. I have not attempted in this paper to deal with the proportions of the different birds in the respective sites, even where I have such data, which is not always the case. In Whaler's Bay Cave, for instance, there are far more Albatross and Mollymawk represented than any other bird. At Houhora, more Snapper appear to have been eaten than any other form of animal food. Various shags are plentiful in some sites. Cook's sailors found shags palatable food. In most middens, some species are represented by one or a few bones. The chances of survival of the bones of the smaller bush birds and tiny petrels, such as Pelecanoides, are less than those of the bigger birds. The presence of a Tui humerus indicated the use of at least one bird, and many more may have been eaten, without any trace surviving. At some sites, excavated at several periods, later 'digs' have produced a number of bones of species not represented at all in the first excavations. For such reasons, I consider in the present stage of our knowledge that statistics are rather unreliable for many sites.

#### SUMMARY

Bird, mammal and Tuatara bone identifications from 19 New Zealand archaeological sites (9 in the North Island and 10 in the South Island) are listed site by site. Fifteen moa species, 111 other bird species and subspecies, and five mammals are named in the list.

Extinct non-ratite birds are recorded as follows: N.Z. Pelican from a site near the South Island coastal Lake Grassmere; N.Z. Swan from North Auckland, Paremata near Wellington, the Lake Grassmere site, North Otago, and Stewart Island; N.Z. Goose (Cnemiornis) from Paremata, Lake Grassmere, and North Otago; Finsch's Duck (Euryanas) and Merganser from Lake Grassmere; Large Harrier (North Island form) from four sites between North Auckland and Paremata; Large Harrier (Circus eylesi) and N.Z. Eagle (Harpagornis) from Lake Grassmere; N.Z. Quail from North Auckland to Dusky Sound (nine sites); North Island Takahe from four sites between North Auckland and Paremata; Little Weka (Gallirallus minor) from North Auckland to Stewart Island (six sites); Giant Rail (Aptornis) from Taranaki, Paremata, and Lake Grassmere; Hodgen's Rail (Capellirallus) from Taranaki and Lake Grassmere; Falla's Rail (C. karamu) from North Auckland and possibly from Paremata; a small extinct rail and N.Z. Coot (Nesophalaris) from Lake Grassmere; small extinct Kaka from six South Island sites between Lake Grassmere and Stewart Island; Huia from Taranaki; and N.Z. Crow (Palaeocorax) from eight sites between North Auckland and Stewart Island.

89

Moa records are as follows: Anomalopteryx didiformis from North Auckland, Paremata, Lake Grassmere, West Coast South Island, and Stewart Island; Megalapteryx didinus from Waitaki Gorge; Pachyornis mappini from Taranaki and Paremata; P. septentrionalis from Taranaki; Emeus crassus from Lake Grassmere; the small Euryapteryx curtus from North Auckland; E. exilis from North Auckland and Coromandel; the larger E. geranoides from four North Island sites between North Auckland and Paremata; the large, characteristic "moa-hunter" species E. gravis from Paremata in the North Island (worked into a reel) and from seven South Island sites between Lake Grassmere and Stewart Island (represented by eggshell at Waitaki Gorge and by a single leg in Dusky Sound); an undescribed small species of Euryapteryx from Stewart Island; Dinornis gazella from Taranaki; D. struthoides from six North Island sites between North Auckland and Paremata; D. novaezealandiae from Paremata; D. giganteus from five North Island sites between North Auckland and Paremata; and D. robustus possibly from the West Coast of the South Island.

Other interesting records include: Little Spotted Kiwi (now extinct in the North Island) from four North Island sites between North Auckland and Paremata; crested penguins (now not breeding north of south Westland) from Paremata and Lake Grassmere as well as sites further south; Southern Crested Grebe (now breeding only in the South Island) from Paremata and Lake Grassmere; Mottled Petrel from the inland Waitaki Gorge site (did it breed nearby?); a swan different from the extinct N.Z. Swan and the Australian Black Swan from a cave site at Kaikoura; Australian Musk Duck (not known in N.Z. in post-European contact times) and South Island Takahe from Lake Grassmere; Australian Coot (only known as a straggler in N.Z. in post-European contact times) from a site near Christchurch; Kakapo from four North Island sites between North Auckland and Paremata, and from Lake Grassmere and North Otago in the South Island; Laughing Owl (probably extinct) from Paremata, and from five South Island sites between Lake Grassmere and Stewart Island; Barn Owl (the Australian subspecies is a rare straggler to N.Z.) from North Auckland; South Island Thrush (possibly extinct) from Lake Grassmere and Waitaki Gorge; and Tuatara remains from North Auckland, Coromandel, Paremata, and Lake Grassmere.

#### Bibliography

Checklist Committee (F. C. Kinsky convener), 1970. <u>Annotated checklist of</u> the birds of New Zealand including the birds of the Ross Dependency. A. H. & A. W. Reed (for Ornithological Society of N.Z.), Wellington.

Leahy, A., 1976. Whakamoenga Cave, Taupo, N 94/7, a report on the ecology, economy and stratigraphy. Rec. Auckland Mus. 13:29-75.

Scarlett, R. J., 1972. Bones for the New Zealand Archaeologist. <u>Canterbury</u> Mus. Bull. 4:1-69, 329 figs.

Scarlett, R. J., 1974. Moa and Man in New Zealand. Notornis 21:1-12.