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Archaeological Papers from the South Pacific in Honour of R.J. Scarlett***



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BIRDS OF A FEATHER

edited by

Atholl Anderson

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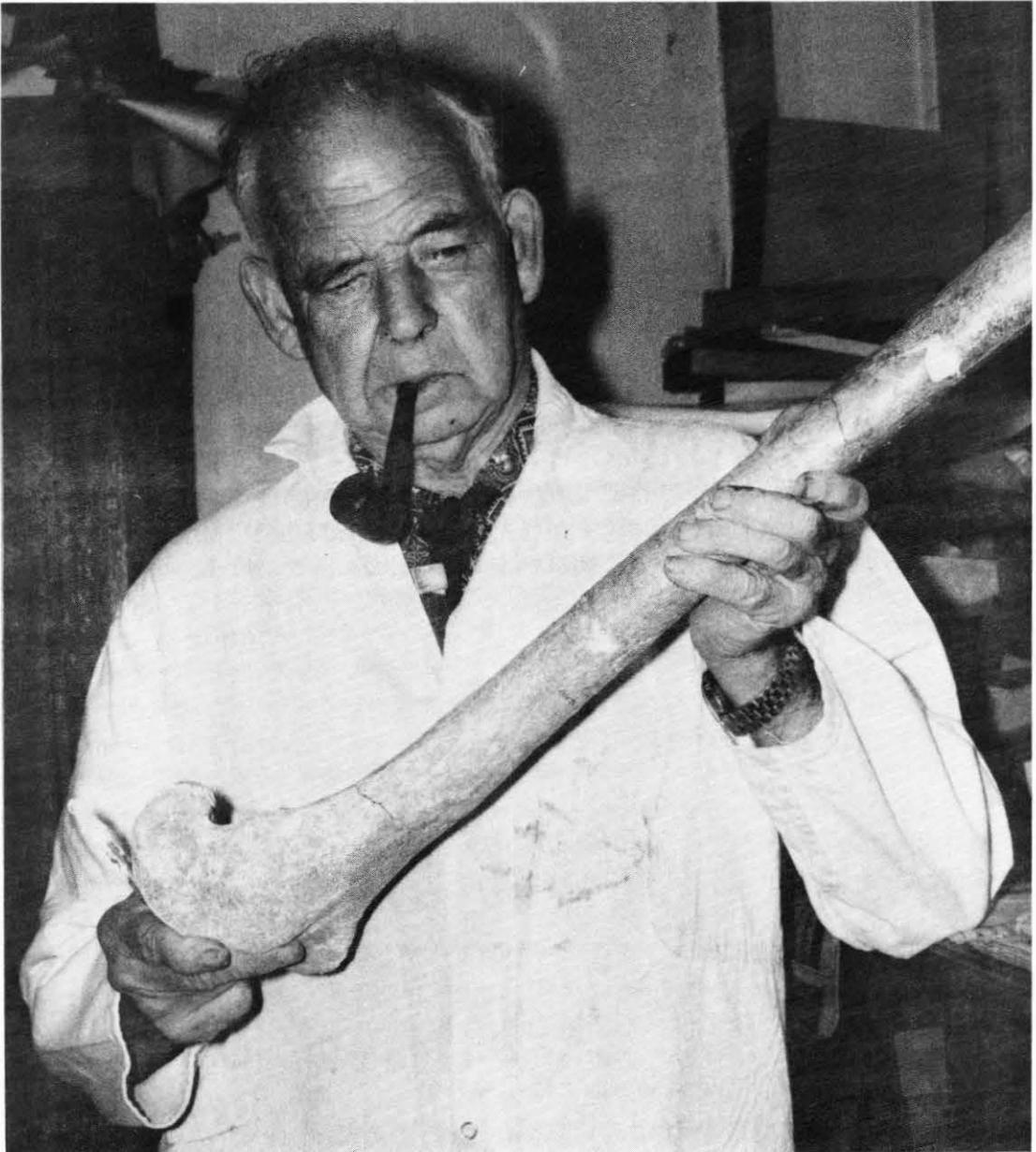
1979

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In 1975 a suggestion that friends and colleagues of Ron Scarlett might contribute to a volume in his honour was received with an enthusiasm quite unreflected in the time it has taken to bring this work to fruition. Initially only archaeologists were party to the preparations, but soon Ron's colleagues in other fields found out and were delighted to participate. We might have expected that this publication would mark Ron's retirement; that it does not is regarded with pleasure by all of us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ann Harrison and Michael Trotter for assistance in various aspects of the preparations and the Council of the New Zealand Archaeological Association for its continued interest in the project as well as the inclusion of this volume in the Association's monograph series. To the authors I can only express my admiration of their patience and courtesy in waiting so long to see their contributions published.

Editor



RON SCARLETT
Canterbury Museum

1979

RONALD JACK SCARLETT

Ron was born in 1911 at Stoke, a village near Nelson and, following an almost itinerant primary education, spent the uncertain years of the 1920s and 1930s at farming, labouring, gardening and mining. At the age of 26 he enrolled for a B.A. degree at Canterbury University College and then, upon graduation, studied Anthropology under H. D. Skinner at Otago. His interest in this field, coupled with a boyhood enthusiasm for natural history and an invitation to join the Pyramid Valley excavations in 1949, formed the foundation of his subsequent career. In 1950 he was appointed to the Canterbury Museum as the Recorder of Collections and later became Osteologist. Apart from short periods abroad, most recently at the Royal Ontario Museum as a Research Associate, he has made Canterbury Museum his professional home.

The study of avifaunal osteology has always been Ron Scarlett's main field, and this has proved a very fortunate circumstance indeed for archaeologists in the South Pacific; most particularly in New Zealand where birds were an unusually important component of prehistoric economies. For thirty years Ron has provided a prompt, painstaking bone identification service and, what is more, assisted at numerous excavations throughout New Zealand and Oceania. Nor does his contribution to archaeology stop there, for he was a foundation member of the New Zealand Archaeological Association and the first editor of the Association's Newsletter. Amongst his contributions in this latter capacity, his admonitions to archaeologists on the subject of retaining faunal remains are still worth recalling. More widely, his active interest in ornithological and anthropological fieldwork has demonstrated a concern not just for bones, but for the birds themselves and their relationships to people of this and other ages.

The contributors to this volume wish to express their respect for Ron's talents and devotion to his profession, their gratitude for his ever-willing assistance and their appreciation of his company in the field.

Scientific Publications

- 1953 A Sub-fossil Hawk from New Zealand Records of the Canterbury Museum 6(3):245-252
- 1955 Further Report on Bird Remains from Pyramid Valley Records of the Canterbury Museum 6(4):261-264
- 1955 A New Rail from South Island Swamps in New Zealand Records of the Canterbury Museum 6(4):265-266
- 1955 Falcon in Chatham Islands Notornis 6(3):57
- 1957 Former Faunal Areas: some sub-fossil evidence Proceedings of the New Zealand Ecological Society 4:17-18

- 1958 A Dentalium Shell Necklace Workshop Journal of the Polynesian Society 67(1):75
- 1960 Excavations at Pari Whakatau, Claverley New Zealand Archaeological Association Newsletter 4(1):2-7
- 1962 Sub-fossil Records of the Little Grey Kiwi in the North Island Notornis 10(2):84-85
- 1962 Interim List of Moa Species from North Island Archaeological Sites New Zealand Archaeological Association Newsletter 5(4):245-246.
- 1963 Comments on Excavations at South Bay New Zealand Archaeological Association Newsletter 6(3):159-160
- 1964 Australian Stragglers in New Zealand, with First Record of the Fan-Tailed Cuckoo Notornis 11(2):107-109 (with E. G. Turbott)
- 1964 Further Heaphy River Excavations New Zealand Archaeological Association Newsletter 7(3):128-132 (with O. R. Wilkes)
- 1966 A Pelican in New Zealand Notornis 13(4):204-217
- 1967 Excavation of a Moa-hunter site at the Mouth of the Heaphy River Records of the Canterbury Museum 8(3):181-212 (with O. R. Wilkes)
- 1967 Adzes and Chisels from the Heaphy River Records of the Canterbury Museum 8(3):213-234
- 1967 Birds of the Heaphy River Area Notornis 14(1):31-33
- 1968 An Owlet-nightjar from New Zealand Notornis 15(4):254-266
- 1968 A Second North Island Locality for Pachyornis elephantopus (Owen) Notornis 15(1):36
- 1969 The Occurrence of the Musk Duck, Biziura lobata (Shaw) in New Zealand Notornis 16(1):57-59
- 1969 Moas and Other Extinct Birds In G. A. Knox (Ed) The Natural History of Canterbury:565-568 Reed, Wellington
- 1969 On the Alleged Queensland Moa, Dinornis queenslandiae de vis Memoirs of the Queensland Museum 15(3):207-212
- 1970 The Genus Capellirallus Notornis 17(4):303-319
- 1970 The Auckland Island Merganser Wildfowl 21:78-86 (with HJanet Kear)
- 1970 The Auckland Island Merganser Wildfowl 21:78-86 (with Janet Kear)
- 1970 A Small Woodhen from New Zealand Notornis 17(1):68-74
- 1972 Bone of a Presumed Odontopterygian Bird from the Miocene of New Zealand New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics 15(2):269-274
- 1972 Bones for the New Zealand Archaeologist Canterbury Museum Bulletin 4
- 1974 Moa and Man in New Zealand Notornis 21(1):1-12
- 1975 Thyroid Bones of Moas Records of the Canterbury Museum 9(3):247-258
- 1976 King Penguins at Chatham Island Notornis 23(4):355

This volume: A Deceptive Terrestrial Vertebrate Fossil Site on the Waipara River, North Canterbury, New Zealand (with T. H. V. Rich, P. V. Rich, R. E. Fordyce and P. Gatehouse)

This volume: Avifauna and Man

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