

the north with onshore southerlies washing the corpses onto the Palliser Bay beaches. Kinsky argues with good evidence that these young Yellow-eyed Penguins were most likely well into the Cook Strait area when they were overcome by the cyclone, and he was impressed by the northerly range of this sedentary species. However, in 1968 there were good numbers of Yellow-eyed Penguins already coming ashore on Banks Peninsula, and there may have been some breeding by that date. There is a possibility that some of the Yellow-eyed Penguins found after the cyclonic storm were from breeding grounds on Banks Peninsula.

The build-up in numbers of Yellow-eyed Penguins in the eastern and southern bays on Banks Peninsula has been quite rapid and it is interesting to speculate why this should be so, when during the same period there has been a marked decline in numbers of White-flippered Penguins *Eudyptula albosignata*. Feral cats have certainly been responsible for some mortality of chicks of White-flippered Penguins on Banks Peninsula and it is unlikely that these predators would be able to tackle the much larger Yellow-eyed Penguins. Another likely explanation might be human interference on the breeding grounds on the Otago coast further south where many of the colonies are adjacent to quite large cities and towns. Richdale mentions human interference on Otago Peninsula which resulted in a shift from the area of two to four year old Yellow-eyed Penguins. The small breeding colony at Cape Wanbrow, Oamaru, has almost been wiped out by human visitors and dogs.

Yellow-eyed Penguins usually prefer a rocky coast for their breeding grounds and apart from a few outcrops at Timaru which could hardly be considered ideal habitat, the next part of the South Island coast north of Oamaru suitable, is Banks Peninsula. What is surprising is that they have not established themselves here earlier.

#### REFERENCES

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## SHORT NOTE

### FANTAIL AND MOTH

Recently, while searching for Kokako in the Hunua Ranges, I saw a Fantail catch a moth about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long. Obviously this was too big to swallow, so the Fantail held the moth in one foot, parrot-fashion, and devoured it in small pieces.

— HARRY WAKELIN