

The role of non-breeding Adelie Penguins has been reviewed extensively by LeResche & Sladen (1970). They state that young Adelie Penguins will incubate the eggs of nesting birds, either on the original nest or when eggs have rolled from nest to nest, and they will serve as creche guardians after both parents leave to feed at sea. However, they make no mention of young birds feeding chicks. To my knowledge this represents the first reported cases of non-breeding Adelie Penguins actively feeding chicks. In both cases the parents of the chicks were still alive and came regularly to feed them. Many other observations were made of chicks approaching non-breeding birds and begging for food, but they were never fed. Since very few chicks derive food in this manner, the survival value of this activity is probably low.

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#### LITERATURE CITED

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#### KEA OBSERVATIONS IN THE TARARUA RANGE

Oliver (1955) noted that in 1942 a Kea was reported as having been seen in the Tararua Range, but adds that the species is not established in that area.

On the evening of 8 January 1974, shortly after arriving at Alpha Hut in the Tararua Range, Mr B. Manly and the writer were fascinated to see a male Kea (*Nestor notabilis*) in the vicinity of the hut. The bird entered the hut door for scraps of food, and displayed all the roguishness characteristic of its species, but in stubborn silence. The bird had no leg band or special identifying marks. Shortly after dark the Kea, doubtless resenting the lapse of attention then being paid to it, flew off with unmistakable raucous cry. The next morning it returned, posed for photos, and followed us for a short distance along the track.

The photographs were submitted to Mr F. C. Kinsky for confirmation of the observation.

Dr P. C. Bull, Ecology Division, DSIR, informs me that a Kea was also observed at Totara Flats in the south eastern Tararua Range, on 2-3 March 1974.

The possibility of Keas flying across to the Tararuas from the South Island has long been the subject of speculation, but it would be unwise to assume that the bird or birds observed in the Tararua Range this year had in fact made the journey directly.

Three Keas are held at Staglands Wildlife Park in the Aka-tarawa Valley, about 13 kilometres in a direct line from Alpha Hut. Two of these are males which are allowed free access to the Tararua Range. These birds have no identifying marks or leg bands, and it is not known whether they were absent from Staglands on the days when Keas were observed in the Tararuas. I am informed that Keas are also kept at Reikorangi, near Waikanae, and that there are several other places around the periphery of the Tararua Range where Keas have been kept in the recent past.

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#### REFERENCE

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#### FERAL BARBARY DOVES IN MASTERTON

In the autumn of 1971 one or two Barbary Doves (*Streptopelia risoria*) appeared in our garden. As my wife puts out food for birds it was not long before more doves turned up and in the winter of 1972 as many as 30 were to be seen on most days. Occasional nests were reported to me in gardens in neighbouring areas. The 1973-1974 breeding season seems to have been a successful one as at least five juveniles (with pale bills and lacking the black neck band) were present in the garden. The breeding season evidently is fairly extended as on 11 October 1973 a young one still soliciting food appeared. At the beginning of the same month a pair built a nest in an Akeake in the garden but strong winds displaced the egg, which lay broken on the ground a day or so after it was laid. On 19 January 1974 a dove was watched in the garden searching for twigs and eventually flying off with one.

The Barbary Dove is by nature exceptionally confiding, so much so that it is doubtful if it would really succeed in the wild state