

It is clear from the information now available that the North Island kiwi eats a wide range of animal and plant material, some of it, berries for instance, presumably being obtained from the surface of the ground rather than from under it. This probability should be taken into account by anyone planning to use poisoned baits for the control of noxious animals in areas where kiwis occur.

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REFERENCE

Gurr, L.: 1952. Some Food of the North Island Kiwi (*Apteryx australis*).
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* Animal Ecology Section, D.S.I.R., Wellington

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OBITUARY — LADY GUNSON, O.B.E.

We regret to announce the death at the age of 82 of Lady Gunson. After a busy life of public service, Lady Gunson joined the Ornithological Society in 1946. Whenever she was able, she attended the annual meetings and enjoyed the excursions which followed them. Those who met her on such occasions will remember her especially for her enthusiasm. Despite her three score years and more than ten, she would climb the slippery tracks through the beech forests above Wellington's eastern bays and in 1953, when a tremendous southerly was blowing in the Wairarapa, she defied the atrocious weather and battled her way along the beach to see a huge sperm whale which was stranded there.

The appeal of birds to her was mainly aesthetic. When the Fiordland Wren was discovered and specimens reached the Dominion Museum, she asked in her gentle way that she might be allowed to make sketches of them. An ardent conservationist, she believed that all New Zealand children should receive instruction in the natural history of their native land and that such knowledge would make them better citizens.

In remembering her with affection, the Ornithological Society offers its sympathy to Sir James and his family.

— R.B.S.