

- HOLYOAK, D. T. 1974. Undescribed land birds from the Cook Islands, Pacific Ocean. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Club* 94: 145-150.
- HOLYOAK, D. T. 1980. Guide to Cook Islands birds. [Cook Islands Library and Museum Society].
- LYSAGHT, A. 1959. Some Eighteenth Century bird paintings in the library of Sir Joseph Banks (1743-1820). *Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) Historical Ser.* 1: 253-386.
- MACRAE, J. 1922. With Lord Byron at the Sandwich Islands in 1825; being extracts from the MS diary of James Macrae, Scottish botanist. [William F. Wilson, ed.]. Honolulu: [No publisher given].
- NEWTON, A. 1892. Ornithology of the Sandwich Islands. *Nature* 45: 465-469.
- OLSON, S. L.; JAMES, H. F. 1982. Prodrum of the fossil avifauna of the Hawaiian Islands. *Smithsonian Contr. Zool.* 365: 1-59.
- ROTHSCHILD, W. 1900. The avifauna of Laysan and the neighboring islands: with a complete history to date of the birds of the Hawaiian possessions. Part 3. London: R. H. Porter.
- SEEBOHM, H. 1881. Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum. Vol. 5. London: British Museum.
- SHARPE, R. B. 1890. Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum. Vol. 13. London: British Museum.
- SHARPE, R. B. 1906. Birds. Pages 79-515 in *The history of the collections contained in the Natural History Departments of the British Museum*. London: British Museum (Natural History).
- STEADMAN, D. W. 1985. Fossil birds from Mangaia, southern Cook Islands. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Club* 105: 58-66.
- STEADMAN, D. W.; OLSON, S. L. 1985. Bird remains from an archaeological site on Henderson Islands, South Pacific: man-caused extinction on an "uninhabited" island. *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA* 82: 6191-6195.
- STRESEMANN, E. 1949. Birds collected in the North Pacific area during Capt. James Cook's last voyage (1778 and 1779). *Ibis* 91: 244-255.
- TAYLOR, F. J. 1984. Birds on Aitutaki, Atiu and Mauke, southern Cook Islands. *Notornis* 31: 267-270.
- THOMAS, W. S. 1979. A biography of Andrew Garrett, early naturalist of Polynesia: Part 1. *Nautilus* 93: 15-28.
- WIGLESWORTH, L. W. 1981a. On the Polynesian members of the genus *Ptilopus*. *Ibis (Ser. 6)* 3: 566-584.
- WIGLESWORTH, L. W. 1891b. Aves Polynesiae. A catalogue of the birds of the Polynesian subregion (not including the Sandwich Islands). *Abhandlungen und Berichte des Königlichen Zoologischen und Anthropologisch-Ethnographischen Museums zu Dresden* No. 6: 92 pp.
- WILSON, S. B. 1907. Notes on the birds of Tahiti and the Society group. *Ibis ser. 9*, 1: 373-379.

STORRS L. OLSON, *Department of Vertebrate Zoology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. 20560, USA*

## SHORT NOTE

### Unusual waterfowl behaviour

On 6 July 1986 I visited the Matata Lagoons, arriving about 10.30 a.m. The weather was cold and wet with a south-westerly wind blowing. On scanning the lagoon opposite the Matata Hotel I saw two dense, round groups of birds, about 70 m apart, well out in the open water. Each group, about 15 m in diameter, was composed of c.100 ducks of two species – New Zealand Shoveler (*Anas rhynchos*) c.65% and New Zealand Scaup (*Aythya novaeseelandiae*) c.35%. In general, the shoveler formed the dense centre of each group, swimming in circles and surface feeding, while the scaup formed the perimeter, diving about, and under, the group. The sexes of both species appeared to be equally well represented. There were numerous other members of both species scattered around the lagoon but none of them seemed to take any interest in the two dense groups, which seemed to be involved in a feeding frenzy.

When I left Matata at 11 a.m. both groups were still in much the same position and still actively feeding. I returned briefly at about 2 p.m. to find the groups still present and active, though their positions had altered a little.

P. C. M. LATHAM, *c/o Papamoa Beach P.O., via Te Puke, Bay of Plenty*