

full specific status, that summer in New Zealand, are there no lost *dominica*? Is it not true that American Golden Plovers, greyer and slightly larger, have already be suspected at Farewell Spit?

Australasian ornithologists have reason to be grateful for the generous treatment which their many endemic plovers and far-travelling arctic migrants have received. One query. What is the basis for the often repeated statement that our Shore Plover was once widespread in the North Island? Is there any real evidence, archeological or corporeal? If *Thinornis* did visit the North Island in numbers, it is likely to have been before the arrival of Polynesian Man, together with kuri (dog) and kiore (rat). By the time of Captain Cook's Second Voyage, it seems to have been surviving only along a few remote South Island inlets and, of course, in the Chatham Islands.

The authors have combined to produce a specialist book which will be thumbed and treasured by all who have experienced the lure and thrill of studying shorebirds. It is just the book to have handy not only for understanding the 'common or garden' waders, but also when some exotic stranger, such as Wilson's Phalarope, Asiatic Dowitcher or Painted Snipe, miraculously appears in one's field of view.

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*Penguins of the World: A Bibliography* by A. J. Williams, J. Cooper, I. P. Newton, C. M. Phillips, B. P. Watkins. British Antarctic Survey, 1985. 255 pp. ISBN 0-85665-112-5. £11.50.

This bibliography lists 1942 numbered citations arranged alphabetically by senior author. There are two indexes, one to species, the other to 17 broad subject categories such as Ecology, Behaviour etc. Both fossil and living species are covered but the Royal/Macaroni and Little/White-flipped Penguins are regarded as conspecifics and hence separated in the species index.

Recent research up to and including 1984 is strongly represented but early papers containing type descriptions are deliberately omitted on the grounds that these are readily available in the 2nd (1979) Edition of Vol. 1 of Peter's 'Checklist of Birds of the World'. Also missing are many of the early notes on Penguins. For example, there are three entries for W. L. Buller but many more are listed in Mrs Oliver's *Annotated Index to Some Early Bird Literature* (1968). Similarly there is but one entry for F. W. Hutton and none of Otto Finsch's notes from the Trans. NZ Inst. is listed. On the other hand a number of popular articles, some of marginal scientific value, are included. On the credit side, the authors have listed some general works and publications with useful but mainly incidental references to penguins: such citations are often missed by 'Zoological Record' and 'Biological Abstracts'. The result is an excellent compilation that will be particularly helpful for those wishing to get into the Russian, Japanese and German literature. It is planned to update the work with supplementary lists from time to time.

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