

Ludwig Koch and Eric Simms. The species are introduced verbally by Dr Arthur A. Allen and Roger Tory Peterson. The set covers more than 600 species; therefore the time allotted to each is rather brief, only 15 seconds. The cover of this set gives the species in order of appearance, the function of the sound illustrated as well as the locality and the month of recording. The Hawaiian recordings on side two of disc three are the only ones currently available.

I would highly recommend this set, which is available from the Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, U.S.A.

L. B. McP.

HUTCHINSON, J. N. *Australian bird calls index* — Series 1, Western Australia, 12 inch LP record or one hour tape-cassette. Available from John N. Hutchinson, Gascoyne Research Station, Carnarvon 6701, Western Australia. A\$5.00 incl. postage.

This full length 33 1/3 r.p.m. recording was produced by John N. Hutchinson and he has provided a magnificent example of what can be done with an open microphone when recording bird song. The quality on this disc is excellent and reminds one of that famous pioneer of nature recording, Dr Ludwig Koch, who always used open microphones.

This disc has 50 species on it, three of which were supplied by Norman Robinson. The species are presented in taxonomic order and are introduced by Miss Gillian Waite, who made one small mistake on one of the announcements. The second bird on track two is announced as a Boobook Owl and is, in fact, listed as such in the main notes on the back of the cover; however, a little sticker attached to the cover states that the recording is a Barking Owl. Of the 50 species, 38 are, as far as I can tell, first recordings for Australia, some of them being of uncommon to rare birds. The cover photograph is a nice shot of the Wedgebill, *Sphenostoma cristatum*.

Mr Hutchinson is to be commended for this record: one hopes that he will go on recording more birds. The record is the result of nine years of patient field work with two Ficord tape recorders.

L. B. McP.

[A review of this recording has appeared in *Emu* 73 (1): 37, by "P.N.R.", January 1973].

BIGWOOD, K. & J. *A treasury of New Zealand bird song*. Introduced by G. R. Williams. Wellington: Kiwi Records (A. H. & A. W. Reed), LP SLD-25 (also available as cassette, TC SLD-25). \$5.50.

This long-playing record is a re-issue of the boxed set that was published some years ago and has many of the faults of that set. The long spoken introductions by Dr Gordon Williams are a waste of valuable needle time and could have been printed on the cover or on a supplementary page. These introductions do not always indicate which race of bird is being presented nor does the data on the cover help much.

These recordings were obtained by Ken and Jean Bigwood on EMI L2 machines and tend to show their age a little except for