

ABOUT OUR AUTHORS

KENNETH C. PARKES is Curator of Birds at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He writes about himself in this way: "I was born in 1922, and received both my undergraduate and graduate education at Cornell University, attaining the Ph.D. in 1952. I joined the staff of the Carnegie Museum (as of this year, now officially Carnegie Museum of Natural History) as Assistant Curator of Birds in 1953 and have risen to the rank of Curator of Birds. I am generally considered to be a taxonomist, but my interests within ornithology are actually rather wide. Within taxonomy, I have specialized in the birds of the New World Tropics and of the Philippine Islands. Another major interest is in moults and plumages — I am the Parkes of the Humphrey-Parkes terminology for moults and plumages (*Auk* 1959). I have done field work in the Philippines, Argentina, Mexico, and various parts of the United States and Canada. I have about 250 "titles" in my bibliography, and am currently President of the Wilson Ornithological Society. I don't know when I will find the time to prepare a full list of the Buller specimens in our collection, but I have every intention of doing so eventually as I think it would be quite valuable for New Zealand ornithologists."

JOHN JENKINS was introduced to readers in the June 1973 issue of *Notornis*. He is at present Master of the "*Union South Pacific*."

RAY PIERCE is a third-year Zoology student at the University of Otago. He has been a member of the OSNZ for the past seven years and has been active in the South Island and Stewart Island especially on Canterbury river beds and lake shores. He is mainly interested in terns and is surveying the distribution of Caspian Terns in Canterbury. Beach patrolling, nest recording and making regular counts of birds at Lake Ellesmere and other Canterbury lakes.

J. A. BARTLE, universally known as "SANDY," is at present in remote parts of Afghanistan and is beyond the reach of communication until towards the end of the year. A contemporary writes about him — "Sandy Bartle's ornithological career started when he was about 12 years old. Educated in Wellington, Sandy prospered ornithologically under the guidance of a trio of well-known local ornithologists, Sir Robert Falla, Dr C. A. Fleming and Mr F. C. Kinsky. His field work has taken him to Pipinui Point, the Poor Knights Islands, the Westland Black Petrel colony, and he played a prominent part in the Victoria University surveys of the natural history of Castlepoint. Although he has received a Master of Science degree with First Class Honours from Victoria University, Sandy has not yet settled into a scientific career. He is at present travelling in Asia for about two years on a working holiday basing himself at the Indian Ocean Biological Centre of the National Institute of Oceanography at Ernakulam, South India. Earlier he had taken a year away from his university studies and worked as a fisherman on boats operating in Cook Strait, thus acquiring the material on which his present paper is based."