

ABOUT OUR AUTHORS

GEOFFREY R. F. HICKS was introduced to readers in the March 1974 issue of *Notornis*.

H. PAULINE McCOLL came to New Zealand in 1969 after obtaining a Masters degree from the University of Wales to take up a position as a soil zoologist at Soil Bureau, DSIR, Taita. Her principle research interests are the taxonomy of osoriine staphylinid beetles, and the invertebrate fauna of forest floors, particularly *Nothofagus* forests. She has recently returned from an extensive collecting trip to Africa.

MICHAEL J. MEADS was educated in Australia and came to New Zealand in 1954. He was involved in a stud stock-breeding programme in the Marton area before joining Ecology Division, DSIR, where he is at present working on opossum defoliation of northern rata, seasonal variation and relative abundance of Lepidoptera, and on the fauna of differing forest litter types. His hobby interests are directed towards natural sciences, principally entomology and herpetology.

GRAHAM S. HARDY is a lecturer in Vertebrate Zoology at Victoria University. His research interests for several years have been in herpetology and he is currently completing a Ph.D. thesis on skink systematics with particular emphasis on blood protein electrophoresis. He has had considerable collecting experience on many of the offshore islands of the Hauraki Gulf and Cook Strait.

ROSEMARY J. ROSER has now been at Victoria University for 4 years and last year gained a B.Sc.(Hons.) degree which included research into the feeding habits of the introduced ferret at Pukepuke Lagoon on the North Island West Coast. She is considering starting a Ph.D. later this year on aspects of the biology of the stoat.

CHRISTOPH IMBODEN has had ornithology as a hobby from schooldays. He graduated from the University of Basel, Switzerland, with a Ph.D. thesis on the migration, dispersal, and breeding period of the European Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus* L. This was the first analysis of banding recoveries based on the new Euring system and carried out with a computer. He spent two years in New Zealand for further studies in ecology with a fellowship from the Swiss government, the first year with Ecology Division, DSIR, and the second year with the Wildlife Service. Now back in Switzerland with the Swiss League for Conservation of Nature, he is working on wetland habitats. His main interests are management and conservation of nature and population ecology.