

## LETTERS

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The Editor,  
Sir,

### A MATTER OF SPELLING

According to an old tenet of journalism, most people are concerned less with what may be said about them than with whether their names are spelled correctly. Allow me, therefore, to register a complaint on behalf of two of my American colleagues, one of whom can no longer protest for himself and the other of whom may have by now resigned himself to misspellings of his admittedly uncommon middle name.

In the review by K.W. in the March 1977 number of *Notornis*, the name of the late Josselyn Van Tyne is twice spelled "Jocelyn" and that of George Miksch Sutton three times as "Mikesh." The multiple occurrences suggest that these misspellings were not simply overlooked printer's errors, but were in the original manuscript. My own family name being one that is frequently misspelled, I am perhaps more than usually sensitive on this point.

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16 May 1977*

[ 'Do you spell it with a "V" or a "W" ? ' inquired the judge.  
'That depends upon the taste and fancy of the speller, my Lord,'  
replied Sam.

Editorially, we are not subscribers to such flights of Dickensian fancy, and we regret very much errors in *Notornis* despite their origin in the typescript submitted to us as Dr Parkes has suggested. Dr Robert W. Storer, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, has also written pointing out the error of our ways but softening the blow by sending his good wishes for the "continued success of *Notornis*" remarking — "I always enjoy receiving my copy of *Notornis*, in part because of the contents and in part because it reminds me of the very pleasant time I had in New Zealand several years ago and the friends which I have there." Thank you, Dr Storer, for your welcome support. — Ed.]



The Editor,  
Sir,

### ON "THE RELATIONSHIPS OF *FINSCHIA* AND *MOHOUA*"

I was interested to read Dr A. Keast's paper (*Notornis* 24 (1): 50-52, March 1977) in which he takes some two pages to tell us that

he doesn't know what the affinities of *Finschia* and *Mohoua* are; that, at least, is my assessment from his conclusions that they are "members of an old Australian pachycephaline-warbler-flycatcher lineage" and that "they are apparently derived from an earlier generalized, forest-dwelling proto-pachycephaline stock." I further suggest Dr Keast may have been misled by the occurrence of "multiple adults."

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27 May 1977*



## ABOUT OUR AUTHORS

GRAHAM TURBOTT is Director of the Auckland War Memorial Museum with which he has a long association, being appointed to the staff in 1937 and working there until 1957 when he became Assistant Director and Keeper of Zoology at the Canterbury Museum. He returned to Auckland in 1964. Co-author of the much-appreciated *Field Guide to the Birds of New Zealand*, Mr Turbott is a Past President of the OSNZ (1949-52), the Art Galleries and Museums Association of NZ (of which he is a Fellow), the Auckland Zoological Society, the Auckland Branch of the Antarctic Society, and the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand (1963-4). He edited the third edition of Buller's *Birds of New Zealand*. A member of a number of Government committees and commissions, he was appointed to the Fauna Protection Advisory Council in 1949. Mr Turbott was also a member of the Auckland Island coastwatching party during the wartime "Cape Expedition."

GEORGE B. WILKINSON graduated in forestry in 1955 at the University College of North Wales. He joined the New Zealand Forest Service in 1963 and has worked in Southland, Otago and Canterbury. In 1972 he was awarded a State Services post-graduate fellowship and completed an M.Sc. at the Joint Centre of Environmental Studies at Canterbury. Recently he completed an assignment as joint co-ordinator of the inter-departmental land use study of South Westland. He has a keen interest in ornithology and forest ecology, and enjoys fishing and shooting in his leisure time.

ROB GUEST was introduced to readers in a previous issue, *Notornis* 22 (1), 1975.

CHRIS PAULIN has been interested in ornithology since secondary school in North Taranaki. He is a graduate of the University of Canterbury and was fortunate to join the University of Canterbury Antarctic Research Unit for two seasons, in 1973 and 1974, studying aspects of the feeding of the Adelie Penguins. At present he is employed at the National Museum in Wellington mainly involved with fishes. Although interested in birds generally, his particular interest is in the sub-fossil avifauna of New Zealand.