

brown trout (*Salmo trutta*). Also present were 28 fresh water snails (*Potamopyrgus*) and 7 cases of the small caddis *Oxythira albiceps*. These could well have come from the stomach of the trout, since it seems unlikely that a shag would utilise such small food. A notable feature was the presence of three proboscis worms (probably *Corynosoma*). These probably originated from a zone of heavy infestation at the beginning of the intestine, by anti-peristaltic movements of the gut. There were also 58 nematodes living free, parasitically, in the lumen of the stomach.

I would be grateful if any of your readers who have noted the Spotted Shag inland, would inform me. I wish to find out whether the habit of feeding inland is peculiar to the young (all the cases I have seen so far have been immature birds) or whether it is merely aberrant behaviour concerning all ages.

— K. W. DUNCAN

Dept. of Zoology,  
University of Otago.  
10/4/63

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## REVIEW

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*The Mallee-Fowl (the Bird that Builds an Incubator)*, by H. J. Frith. Published June, 1962, by Angus & Robertson Ltd., Sydney. Price 35s. Australian.

This is a simply-written, absorbing and authoritative life-history of a bird that is "unique to Australia, and is one of the continent's wonders." The book will have a wide appeal to all naturalists in Australia, New Zealand and overseas. Mr. Frith, who is Chief of the Division of Wildlife Research, C.S.I.R.O., extended his studies of the Mallee-Fowl over eight years, first as a private week-end activity, and later as a Departmental project, and has traced in complete detail, with excellent photographs, the bird's amazing nesting habits, up to the stage when the newly-hatched chick fights its way through several feet of sand to the surface of the nesting mound. It is sincerely to be hoped that the book will go a long way towards achieving the main object of its publication, viz. the provision of adequate refuges to forestall ultimate extinction, which is surely otherwise this remarkable bird's fate, at least in N.S.W. and Victoria.

— A.B.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### Auckland, 24th May, 1963

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64 members and friends attended, many having travelled long distances. No less than 12 Regions were represented.

In order to shorten the time spent on formal business, copies of the Society's and Card Committee's accounts were provided for the information of members and Annual Reports were not read in full, but briefly summarised in the President's Address. Full reports will appear in *Notornis* as they are ready for publication.