

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Christchurch, 15th May, 1965

62 members and friends attended, representing 11 Regions.

Organisation of the A.G.M. week-end activities was in the hands of Canterbury Regional Committee. In addition to field outings our hosts had arranged a Dinner. This most enjoyable social gathering was followed by a talk with slides on Antarctic Birds by Dr. Bernard Stonehouse, Reader in Zoology, University of Canterbury. Mr. H. R. McKenzie expressed the thanks of all present for Dr. Stonehouse's vivid and stimulating talk.

In opening the Annual General Meeting, Mr. A. Blackburn thanked Mr. J. R. Jackson and his committee for the excellent arrangements and made special reference to Miss M. M. Davis, whose untiring efforts and generous hospitality had contributed so much to the outstanding success of the annual gathering.

Mr. A. Blackburn delivered as his Presidential Address a paper on Nesting of North Island Fantails.

Mr. H. R. McKenzie presented O.S.N.Z. and Card Committee accounts and reports, which were adopted. The President then called upon the Secretary to summarise Annual Reports, which will be printed in full in *Notornis* and to outline important decisions taken at the Council Meeting.

Membership as at 31st March was 900, an increase of 51 since last year.

Mr. J. C. R. Claridge has handed over the Nest Record Scheme to Miss M. M. Neill. We are grateful to Mr. Claridge for his past efforts, which resulted in a marked revival of interest in the scheme, a record year in 1963/64 and another record year in 1964/65, when 50 members returned 801 cards. It is hoped that the scheme will receive continued and increasing support. Mr. Blackburn, in his address, drew attention to the paucity of records for fantails (only 78 cards available). Mr. J. Hilton, who is working on an analysis of blackbird cards, found that even the 517 cards available for study were insufficient to produce a clear picture, and all members are asked to record blackbird nests in 1965/66 season.

The Beach Patrol Report for 1963 will shortly be ready for publication. 1964 records are not yet complete but publication of these will follow when ready.

Arrangements are in hand for preparation and publication of summaries of Banding Reports Nos. 14 and 15.

The list of contributors to the Recording Scheme shows a 30% increase since last year. All information collected is being passed to the Checklist Committee and two members are working on species summaries.

Work of the Checklist Committee has been interrupted by a variety of circumstances but is now going ahead. Progress has been made on preparation of Ornithological abstracts and publication of part of this material may be expected in the near future. The Field Guide is practically ready for the printers and, barring accidents, should be available before the end of 1965.

Successful Field Study Courses were held at Taranaki and Kaipara during the year. The 25th Anniversary Kermadec expedition came to an untimely end. Reprints of the account of this expedition will shortly be available for purchase by members or non-members who may wish to possess a copy. The possibility of mounting another Kermadec expedition in the near future is being explored.

Provisional future plans for study courses include:—

1965: Labour Day Week-end, North Island, Wanganui; South Island, participation in Wildlife Branch survey of Waitaki River basin.

1966: A joint North Island and South Island Labour Day week-end in Nelson Province.

1967: Labour Day week-end, Hawkes Bay (Black-fronted Dotterels); Summer Study Course, Farewell Spit.

One of the results of a successful conference of Regional Representatives held during the week-end was the decision to produce a pamphlet to replace "Bird Study in New Zealand." It is proposed that this pamphlet should include information about the Society, a diagram of a bird showing feather regions and external structure, a diagram showing how to measure a bird, and a guide for recording field notes.

Council has established a Minor Expeditions Reserve Fund which is intended to provide financial assistance to expeditions privately organised by members. Applicants for grants, which will be made at the discretion of Council, should be supported by:—

(a) An outline of the project and an estimate of costs under various headings, e.g. transport, equipment, etc.

(b) An indication of other grant assistance already received or promised from elsewhere.

(c) Statement of amount requested.

1964/65 Bailey Awards to Junior Members were announced as follows:—

Best contribution to Nest Record Scheme, J. Hilton.

Best member of King's College Bird Club, D. M. Walter.

Best contribution to *Notornis* or Recording Scheme, no award for 1964/65.

Mr. J. Hilton's award was presented to him by the President, with acclamation.

Mr. A. Blackburn (President), Messrs. B. D. Bell and F. C. Kinsky were re-elected to Council, no other nominations having been received. There were two nominations for the vacancy of South Island Vice-President. Messrs. B. D. Bell and P. C. Harper were appointed scrutineers and reported the result of their count of votes to the President. Mr. G. R. Williams was declared re-elected. Messrs. Chambers Worth and Chambers were re-elected Hon. Auditors and thanked for their services to the Society.

The meeting unanimously voted in favour of motions to alter the Constitution so as to permit the Society's financial year to be changed from 1st April-31st March to 1st January-31st December in each year; the A.G.M. to be held within 5 months of the end of the financial year (previously 3 months); and Regional Organisers to be now known as Regional Representatives.

Under General, Mr. D. H. Brathwaite drew attention to errors and omissions in indexing some Volumes of *Notornis*, and to the fact

that birds are now indexed under popular names, this being contrary to a ruling made some years ago that birds should be indexed by scientific names. The President undertook to go into this matter.

Mr. R. J. Scarlett announced that the Card Index system of Canterbury Museum was available for use by students of ornithology. He also stated that he was in need of skeletons of *Puffinus assimilis elegans* and would be grateful for the opportunity to examine any which may be available.

Mr. J. R. Jackson spoke on the subject of New Zealand Nature Films. Messrs. B. D. Bell and D. E. Crockett stated that film catalogues of National Film Library and Wildlife Branch are available on request. It was proposed by Dr. R. A. Falla, seconded Mr. D. E. Crockett, and carried, that O.S.N.Z. should make enquiries and explore the possibility of more New Zealand nature films being made.

LIBRARY, 1964/65

For many years O.S.N.Z. Library has been housed in the Library block, Auckland Institute and Museum, and Miss Enid A. Evans has been Hon. Librarian. The growth of O.S.N.Z. library from a small collection occupying six shelves to one of several thousands items, and the considerable increase in her work as Museum Librarian led Miss Evans to the decision that she must regretfully tender her resignation as Librarian, O.S.N.Z. About the same time it became apparent that the space formerly occupied by our library would be required for museum purposes.

The Society has therefore become responsible for maintenance and control of our library from its own resources. The Council and Director of the Museum have generously agreed to permit housing of our library in Room 133 of the Museum (access to which is by the front door of the Museum and through the Hall of Memories). Mrs. H. M. McKenzie's offer of her services as Hon. Librarian has been gratefully accepted by Council. Provision has been made for purchase of equipment necessary for the library. Service to members will be chiefly by post. Preparation of accession lists for publication in *Notornis* will be put in hand.

Access to our library by O.S.N.Z. members during Museum hours can be obtained by making an appointment with Mrs. H. M. McKenzie, P.O. Box 45, Clevedon (Telephone Clevedon 31D). Members please note that appointment must be made with Mrs. McKenzie at the above address, and NOT BY WRITING OR TELEPHONING AUCKLAND MUSEUM.

Council have approved the principle of limited purchase of standard ornithological books for the library. A member has indicated his intention to donate his ornithological library, for which he has no further use. It is suggested that other members might consider making similar donations or bequests.

This report would be incomplete if it failed to include a tribute to Miss Enid A. Evans. Miss Evans have over a long period of years been a good friend to the Society and we are greatly in her debt, both for her work as Librarian and for the extra trouble she took to make the process of taking over so smooth and easy.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1965

1964	Current Liabilities	1965 £ s. d.	1964	Current Assets	1965 £ s. d.
150	Sundry Creditors	322 17 0	2956	Bank of New Zealand	956 12 1
130	Subs in Advance	75 12 2	59	Sundry Debtors	58 14 3
35	"Notornis" Indxe Provision	— — —	3015		1015 6 4
315		398 9 2		Stocks on Hand:	
	Reserves:			Banding Scheme	— — —
700	Life Subscriptions & Christmas Card Scheme	700 0 0	78	Copies "Notornis," etc.	300 0 0
139	Publications Fund	139 2 6	300		300 0 0
5	Kermadec Expedition Fund	— — —	378		300 0 0
25	Minor Expedition Fund	30 0 0	—	Loan to Kermadec Expedition Fund	720 0 0
869		869 2 6		Investments:	
	Accumulated Funds:			Auckland Electric Power Board	700 0 0
1124	Balance 1/4/64	4409 7 7	700	Dunedin City Council Debentures	1000 0 0
3250	Bequest	253 5 5	1000	Shares in Public Companies	1531 19 11
60	Excess of Income over Expenditure	— — —	—		3231 19 11
4434		4662 13 0	1700	Library:	
25	Less Transfer to Expedition Fund	— — —	500	At Valuation	500 0 0
4409		4662 13 0			
—	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income	162 18 5			
4409		4499 14 7			
5593		£5767 6 3	5593		£5767 6 3

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1965

1964	Expenditure	1965		1964	Income	1965	
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
	Printing and Distributing Magazine,						
656	" Notornis "	846	14 2	798	Subscriptions	817	4 4
45	Less Sales " Notornis," etc.	85	7 10	19	Donations	26	1 3
				86	Interest Received	138	3 0
39	Postages	48	17 2	-	Dividend Received	3	15 0
52	Printing & Stationery	96	6 6	38	Surplus on Field Courses	12	4 3
83	General Expenses	153	0 0	-	Excess of Expenditure over Income	162	18 5
15	Income Tax	22	19 10				
80	Contribution to Banding Scheme	77	16 5				
61	Excess of Income over Expenditure	-	- -				
£941		£1160	6 3	£941		£1160	6 3

Auditors' Report to Members of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand (Incorporated) —

We report to the members of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand (Incorporated) that we have examined the books, accounts and vouchers for the Society and also those relating to the Card Committee for the year ended 31st March, 1965. We certify that the balance sheets for the Society and the Card Committee are properly drawn up to show the true financial position of the Society at that date.

13th May, 1965

CHAMBERS, WORTH & CHAMBERS, Auditors

CARD COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1965

After deducting the cost of the cards from the sales
we have a:

GROSS PROFIT of	.....	329 18 0
From this we deduct the expenses incurred in selling the cards —		
Advertising	.....	135 17 6
Postage	.....	8 16 8
Services	.....	5 0 0
General Expenses	.....	1 17 9
Donation	.....	20 0 0
		171 11 11
Leaving a Trading Profit of	.....	158 6 1
Add Interest Received	.....	30 13 3
		£188 19 4
Net Profit	.....

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1965

We own:

Cash at Bank	.....	1092 2 4
Printing Blocks	.....	40 0 0
		1132 2 4

Less what we owe to others	.....	15 0 0
Net Equity	.....	£1117 2 4

This has been accumulated as follows:

Profit up to 1964	.....	928 8 0
Current year's profit	.....	188 14 4
		£1117 2 4

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1964 - 65

Income and Expenditure. Heavy expenses for the year have resulted in a loss but the financial position is still very good and a deficit is not expected in the next year.

Legacy from the Estate of the late Mrs. I. I. Lenz, of Dunedin. A further £253/5/5 was received this year, making a total of £3503/5/5.

Investments. Public Company shares were purchased for £1505 in December and a bonus issue to the extent of £69 market value was received in March for one parcel.

We again thank Messrs. Chambers, Worth & Chambers for generously auditing the books.

Mr. D. F. Booth is heartily thanked for his very good work.

H. R. McKENZIE,

Hon. Treasurer, O.S.N.Z.



REPORT BY THE CONVENOR OF THE CARD COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Results for the current year showed an improvement over the past year. There is no doubt that members of the Society appreciate the service and the Committee proposes to continue it for another year. New designs are proposed for the coming festive season and the Committee plans to have them on sale in August, so that they will be in ample time for the overseas mail.

They thank the valuable assistance given by the various members of the Society to this scheme.

They are thankful for the valuable assistance given by the various members of the Society to this scheme.

B. S. CHAMBERS, Convenor



RECORDING SCHEME Report for 1964/65

Collection of information for the Checklist Committee continued during the year and a number of interesting records were received, the Westland contribution being particularly useful. The number of contributors was up 30% on 1963/64 and I am grateful to those who provided material. Much useful information has been collected but much more still remains unrecorded except in the field notebooks of individual observers. Please let me have your notes, either directly or through your Regional Representative. Inevitably, there is a time-lag between the collection of information and the labour of recording it, and again between recording and preparation of results for publication. I hope that during 1965 and thereafter members may be rewarded for their help and their patience by the start of a series of summarised extracts of collected material. Species files of Spurwing Plover and North Island Kokako have already been sent to individual members for study.

I remind members of the request for Kingfisher observations (*Notornis* XI, page 136). Some have already come in and it is hoped that additional notes from all regions may follow, so that we may learn more about seasonal movements of this species and also get a clearer picture of its abundance and scarcity in different parts of New Zealand.

A letter from a member suggesting that in many parts of New Zealand some of our introduced birds have become much less numerous than was the case 5-10 years ago, and that a national survey is desirable, was considered by Council. It was agreed that preliminary investigation of this matter might be started through the Recording Scheme; details will be worked out and announced later.

The following is a list of contributors:—

Northland: Mrs. Barron, D. E. and T. R. Calvert, C. W. Devonshire, A. T. Edgar, P. M. Gross, J. A. Lees, Miss G. Poulton, Miss G. Reeve, Mrs. Reynolds, M. Ross.

Auckland: R. H. Blanshard, D. R. Burke, F. P. Hudson, Miss McIntyre, D. V. Merton, B. Richards, R. B. Sibson, P. D. G. Skegg, D. Walter.

South Auckland: B. and V. M. Adams, R. T. Adams, Mrs. M. J. Blundell, Mrs. B. Brown, J. E. Coulthard, Miss A. J. Goodwin, H. R. McKenzie, Mrs. Urquhart.

Waikato: C. R. Buckeridge, M. P. Daniel, D. B. Jenner, J. Lambert, Mrs. Templer.

Volcanic Plateau: A. E. Beveridge, M. J. Daniel, R. W. Jackson, H. Lyall, F. Morseby.

Bay of Plenty: N. Bowyer, B. Burchett, Mrs. Hamilton, M. Hodgkins, Mrs. McLintock, R. St. Paul, R. M. Weston.

Gisborne: A. Blackburn.

Hawke's Bay: Mrs. Drake, B. D. Hankins, N. B. Mackenzie, Miss K. Todd, Mrs. Waters.

Taranaki: G. G. Atkinson, A. M. Davis, F. Finer, M. G. Macdonald.

Manawatu: E. Dear.

Wanganui: R. W. Macdonald, W. Pengelly.

Wairarapa: K. Cairns.

Wellington: B. D. Bell, C. N. Challies, R. A. Fordham, F. C. Kinsky, A. Wright.

Marlborough: S. R. Kennington, J. A. Cowie.

Nelson: R. Brookie, M. F. Soper.

West Coast: G. P. Allen, G. S. Cook, E. W. Crack, W. R. Forsyth, P. Grant, D. Greaney, T. R. Hartly-Smith, R. W. Washbourn, R. A. Webber.

Canterbury: D. Brathwaite, Dr. M. Buchler, G. Cawley, W. Chapple, M. Criglington, Miss M. M. Davis, D. G. Dawson, D. Graham, J. Hilton, J. R. Jackson, K. Jackson, B. R. Keeley, W. Mawson, R. Scarlett.

Otago: J. H. Allan, P. Child, Mrs. Hamel, H. W. M. Hogg, M. Keillor, Mrs. Kelly, A. Nuttall, W. T. Poppelwell, E. Sheat.

Southland: Mrs. Barlow, P. Dorizac, L. E. Henderson, R. R. Sutton.

Stewart Island: Mrs. O. Sansom, R. H. Traill.

NEST RECORD SCHEME

Annual Report for Year Ended 31st March, 1965

Support for the scheme was well maintained during the year. The number of cards completed was 801, some 70 more than last year's record number. This total includes many colonial-type cards each covering a number of nests. Participation in the scheme also showed an increase, there being more than 50 contributors as against 34 last year. All contributors are thanked for their care and enthusiasm. The grand total of records in the collection now stands at 4470. Names of contributors and details of all cards held for each species are appended to this report.

Records for Kermadec Petrel, Pycroft's Petrel, Chukor, Grey Ternlet and North Island Saddleback were received for the first time and cards were received for the following species poorly represented in the collection: Little Blue Penguin (30), Pied Shag (6), King Shag (9), Californian Quail (5), Northern Oystercatcher (12), Black Oystercatcher (7), New Zealand Dotterel (15), Caspian Tern (5), New Zealand Pigeon (10), Kingfisher (12), South Island Rifleman (8), Welcome Swallow (43) and Yellow-breasted Tit (8).

Cards for nests seen only once are required but whenever possible members are urged to follow up their nests. Even by making two or three visits, a more precise indication can often be obtained of date of laying, success or failure, and other factors. The great majority of members most probably find some nests each year, but comparatively few contribute to the scheme. It would therefore seem that much information is being buried in field notebooks or not recorded at all. I would once more like to emphasise that records for the common species are especially welcome. Experience overseas has shown that very large numbers of cards are required before significant annual or regional variations in breeding patterns can be detected. Therefore the value of the scheme is directly proportional to the number of contributions received from members spread over the country. Contributions are particularly required from Waikato, Taranaki, Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa, Buller and Westland, Southland and Stewart Island. Full details of the scheme were published in *Notornis* X, p. 251, and cards can be obtained from the Organiser, whose address is given on page 57 of this issue.

The best contribution from a junior member (up to 18 years of age) was received from Jim Hilton (Christchurch). I have therefore recommended Mr. Hilton for an award in accordance with the announcement in *Notornis* XI, p. 196.

This is my last report as organiser of the scheme and I have now handed over to Miss M. Neill. I confidently expect that Miss Neill will receive the same support that has been afforded to me over the past four years.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Over 100: J. Hilton.

Over 50: A. Blackburn, Miss M. M. Davis, D. G. Dawson.

Over 25: J. H. Allan, P. Crosier, Miss A. J. Goodwin, P. M. Gross, J. R. Jackson, A. Wright.

Other contributors:

Mrs. M. L. Barlow, G. G. Baskett, B. D. Bell, R. Bos, D. E. Calvert, T. R. Calvert, C. N. Challies, P. Child, J. A. Cowie, W. Douglas, A. T. Edgar, R. Ellis, Miss S. Fogarty, Mrs. C. Graham, G. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hamel, M. J. Hogg, M. P. Jackson, J. Kearns, Mrs. M. Kearns, F. C. Kinsky, D. Kwell, J. Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lane, N. J. Ledgard, Miss M. C. R. McIntyre, H. R. McKenzie, Mrs. R. V. McLintock, D. V. Merton, J. Middleditch, G. Moon, L. R. Morris, G. B. Munro, Misses R. and I. Munro, J. F. O'Brien, W. T. Popplewell, P. J. Reese, C. D. Roderick, H. L. Secker, L. Shailer, J. B. Trollope, G. A. Tunnicliffe, Mrs. L. E. Walker, D. M. Walter.

— J. C. R. CLARIDGE, Organiser

SPECIES LIST

<i>Species</i>	<i>Cards</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Cards</i>
North Island Kiwi	1	Brown Teal	2
Stewart Island Kiwi	1	Grey Duck	53
Great Spotted Kiwi	1	Mallard	33
Yellow-eyed Penguin	10	Shoveller	11
Little Blue Penguin	57	Black Teal	6
White-flipped Penguin	11	Harrier	48
N.Z. Crested Penguin	2	N.Z. Falcon	4
Southern Crested Grebe	2	Pheasant	8
N.Z. Dabchick	1	Californian Quail	13
Wandering Albatross	11	Chukor	1
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	4	Banded Rail	2
Fairy Prion	16	North Island Weka	4
Flesh-footed Shearwater	1	South Island Weka	2
Sooty Shearwater	3	Pukeko	69
Fluttering Shearwater	7	Australian Coot	4
Allied Shearwater	3	South Is. Pied Oystercatcher	94
Black Petrel	1	Northern Oystercatcher	17
Grey-faced Petrel	13	Black Oystercatcher	28
Kermadec Petrel	1	Spur-winged Plover	26
Pycroft's Petrel	1	Banded Dotterel	140
White-faced Storm Petrel	5	New Zealand Dotterel	41
Diving Petrel	51	Wrybill	8
Gannet	4	Pied Stilt	161
Black Shag	45	Black Stilt	2
Pied Shag	18	Southern Skua	1
Little Black Shag	1	Black-backed Gull	199
White-throated Shag	11	Red-billed Gull	35
King Shag	18	Black-billed Gull	89
Spotted Shag	5	Black-fronted Tern	159
Blue Heron	21	Caspian Tern	19
White-faced Heron	8	Antarctic Tern	3
Bittern	2	Fairy Tern	7
Canada Goose	20	White-fronted Tern	75
Mute Swan	9	Grey Ternlet	5
Black Swan	37	N.Z. Pigeon	15
Paradise Duck	6	Rock Pigeon	57
Grey Teal	9	Kaka	4

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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<i>Species</i>	<i>Cards</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Cards</i>
Kea	45	Yellowhead	11
N.Z. Parakeet	3	Grey Warbler	52
Yellow-crowned Parakeet	2	Song Thrush	586
Shining Cuckoo	3	Blackbird	517
Morepork	4	Hedge Sparrow	90
Little Owl	13	N.Z. Pipit	22
Kingfisher	35	Bellbird	12
South Island Rifleman	40	Tui	8
Rock Wren	7	White-eye	77
Skylark	82	Greenfinch	59
Welcome Swallow	59	Goldfinch	205
Fantail	78	Lesser Redpoll	38
Pied Tit	12	Chaffinch	76
Yellow-breasted Tit	17	Yellow Hammer	23
North Island Robin	7	House Sparrow	245
South Island Robin	14	Starling	126
South Island Fernbird	7	Myna	12
Brown Creeper	2	White-backed Magpie	10
Whitehead	6	North Island Saddleback	3
			<hr/>
			Total 4470
			<hr/>



LIST OF REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES, O.S.N.Z.

1965/66

FAR NORTH: A. T. Edgar, Inlet Road, Kerikeri (Acting)

NORTHLAND: A. T. Edgar, Inlet Road, Kerikeri (Acting)

AUCKLAND: M. J. Hogg, 27 Woodside Crescent, St. Heliers,

Auckland E. 1

SOUTH AUCKLAND: H. R. McKenzie, P.O. Box 45, Clevedon

WAIKATO: Mrs. M. L. Templer, 14 Bond Street, Claudlands, Hamilton

BAY OF PLENTY: R. M. Weston, 250 River Road, Kawerau

VOLCANIC PLATEAU: R. W. Jackson, 9 Kenrick Road, Rotorua

GISBORNE-WAIROA: A. Blackburn, 10 Score Road, Gisborne

TARANAKI: M. G. Macdonald, 21 Wills Road, R.D. 3, New Plymouth

WANGANUI: R. W. Macdonald, 127 Ikitara Road, Wanganui East

MANAWATU: E. Dear, Kopane, R.D. 6, Palmerston North

HAWKE'S BAY: N. B. Mackenzie, Pakowhai, R.D. 3, Napier

WAIRARAPA: K. Cairns, 177 Colombo Road, Masterton

WELLINGTON: P. C. Harper, 4 Barber Grove, Moera, Lower Hutt

NELSON: Vacant

MARLBOROUGH: S. R. Kennington, Box 40, Seddon

CANTERBURY: J. R. Jackson, 153 Sparks Road, Christchurch S.W. 2

WESTLAND: P. Grant, 10 Hinton Road, Karoro, Greymouth

OTAGO: Mrs. J. B. Hamel, 42 Ann Street, Roslyn, Dunedin

SOUTHLAND: Mrs. M. Barlow, 152 Lewis Street, Invercargill

STEWART ISLAND: R. H. Trail, Halfmoon Bay, Stewart Island