



# *Birds New Zealand*

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[www.osnz.org.nz](http://www.osnz.org.nz)

## **New issue of *Birds New Zealand* magazine published**

14th April 2016 - The latest issue of *Birds New Zealand* has been published, featuring a photograph of a New Zealand Rock Wren on the front cover and watercolour paintings illustrating Otago Shag and *Hakawai melvillei* on the back cover.

The March 2016 issue reports on latest research findings about New Zealand bird species and the places they inhabit, the work of the Society and its members, and related matters such as survey results and conservation efforts. It features news of the first successful breeding records in New Zealand of Glossy Ibis and Australian Wood Duck, and new studies describing New Zealand and Australian species of Little Penguin, northern and southern lineages of New Zealand Rock Wren, the recognition of Otago Shag and Fouveau Shag as separate species, and an extinct shorebird species newly described from fossil bones found in Otago, named *Hakawai melvillei*.

Other articles include a report on the Australasian Ornithological Conference held in Adelaide in November, an update on the publication of new reports identifying important areas for New Zealand's seabirds, the announcement of a Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary, latest survey results for North Island Kokako in Pureora and King Shag in Marlborough Sounds, a first-hand account of birdwatching in the Solomon Islands, and updates on New Zealand's critically endangered Kakapo and Fairy Tern, and Australia's critically endangered Plains-wanderer and Regent Honeyeater.

Regular items include the quarterly report of the Society's President, David Lawrie, details of the Society's AGM and Conference - to be held on 4th-6th June in Napier - quarterly reports from the Society's 15 regional representatives, and short reports of rare bird sightings over the past six months from around New Zealand.

This issue is the first produced by new editor Michael Szabo. He is a former editor of *Forest & Bird* magazine and has previously written about New Zealand birds in *New Zealand Geographic*, *New Scientist*, and *IUCN World Conservation*. He contributed 50 species accounts to New Zealand Birds Online, the digital encyclopaedia of New Zealand birds, and is the principal author of *Wild Encounters* (Penguin Books NZ), a site guide to discovering New Zealand's unique birds and marine wildlife. He is also a former Communications Manager at the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand and BirdLife International in the UK, former Campaign and Communications Manager at Greenpeace New Zealand, and the founding director of the Pew Charitable Trusts' Kermadec Initiative, a conservation project that was set up to promote a fully protected ocean sanctuary around the Kermadec Islands.

For further information about this issue please contact Michael Szabo on (04) 383 5784.

For further information about the work of Birds New Zealand go to: [www.osnz.org.nz](http://www.osnz.org.nz)

***Birds New Zealand*** is the popular name for  
The Ornithological Society of New Zealand Inc