



# BIRD

## ACTIVITIES PACK

Forest & Bird's resource kete



Te Manu Rongonui o Te Rautau  
**BIRD OF THE CENTURY**



**Forest & Bird**  
TE REO O TE TAIAO | Giving Nature a Voice

CELEBRATING  
**100**  
YEARS 1923-2023

## Forest & Bird is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2023. This means there needs to be an extra special Bird of the Year — in November, the country is going to vote for the Bird of the Century!

To make this year even more special, Forest & Bird wants to celebrate our feathery friends for a whole month — just like the Society wanted in its early days.

During November, vote for your Bird of the Century and discover more about the amazing avians that call Aotearoa home.

Seventy-five brilliant bird species are candidates in this year's competition. This includes five extinct species added to the running for the first time. All 75 contenders can be viewed on the **Bird of the Year website (birdoftheyear.org.nz)**.

Voting for Bird of the Century will open at 9am on Monday, 30 October 2023 and run for two weeks, closing at 5pm on Sunday, 12 November 2023. The winner will be announced the following morning on Monday, 13 November 2023.

Eighty-two percent of our living native bird species are threatened or at risk of extinction. We cannot let any more end up with the tragic fate of the laughing owl or the huia. Let's join together for a month of celebrating our marvellous manu.



# Forest & Bird

TE REO O TE TAIAO  
Giving Nature a Voice

CELEBRATING  
**100**  
YEARS 1923-2023



Te Manu Rongonui o Te Rautau  
**BIRD OF THE CENTURY**



Ko wai tāu ka pōti | Who are you voting for?

We have about 206 native species of birds living today. They are diverse, and lots have ancient origins. Many species are endemic. They're found nowhere else in the world. Others differ from their relatives overseas because they have developed unique features. That's due to living here in Aotearoa and our isolation from other places. A number of our unusual birds have become extinct since the arrival of humans, and we have a large amount who are endangered, threatened, and rare.

Most of the activities included in this resource come from Forest & Bird's kids' conservation magazine, *Wild Things*, produced by our Kiwi Conservation Club | Hakuturi Toa (KCC).

KCC has been helping kids to discover, love, and care for native wildlife and wild places for more than 35 years. Membership starts at just \$24 a year, with special options for schools and groups.

Find out how you can join to benefit from our archive and our upcoming NZ nature-based content at [kcc.org.nz](http://kcc.org.nz).

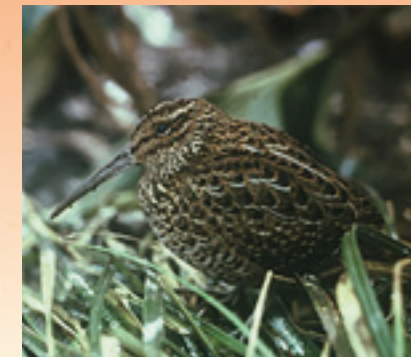


**KCC**  
Kiwi Conservation Club · Hakuturi Toa

# EXTINCT BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



**Mātuhituhi | Bush wren** – a small and nearly flightless wren that once lived on all three main islands of NZ. The last North Island bird was seen in 1955, and the last South Island one in 1968. Birds were found on Big South Cape Island in 1964 and relocated to Kaimohu Island, where the last of them died in 1972.



**Tutukiwi | South Island snipe** – with its last refuge (Big South Cape Island) invaded by ship rats, the South Island snipe became extinct in 1964 – despite a rescue attempt mounted by the Wildlife Service. Two males were captured but died in captivity.



**Huia** – it's likely the huia persisted into the 1920s. Unconfirmed but credible sightings from the Urewera Ranges even extended into the 50s and 60s.



**Piopio** – often considered the native thrush, the piopio was split into North and South Island species in 2012. The last official records of these songsters come from 1902 and 1905, but reported sightings continued into the 1970s.



**Whēkau | Laughing owl** – the last confirmed record of the laughing owl was a dead specimen found in Canterbury in 1914, but sight and sound records persisted into the 1930s.

## Online bird activities

Want to test your bird knowledge or find out more about our beautiful birds? Check out the quizzes and magazines below:

### Arrange birds in size order

[kcc.org.nz/portfolio/sequencer-smallest-to-biggest-nz-birds/](http://kcc.org.nz/portfolio/sequencer-smallest-to-biggest-nz-birds/)

### How much do you know about NZ birds?

[kcc.org.nz/portfolio/how-much-do-you-know-about-new-zealand-birds/](http://kcc.org.nz/portfolio/how-much-do-you-know-about-new-zealand-birds/)

## Online magazines

### Wild Things Ancient Birds issue

[issuu.com/forestandbird/docs/kcc\\_wildthings\\_156\\_spring2022](http://issuu.com/forestandbird/docs/kcc_wildthings_156_spring2022)

### Wild Things Feathers issue

[issuu.com/forestandbird/docs/kcc\\_wildthings\\_159\\_winter2023](http://issuu.com/forestandbird/docs/kcc_wildthings_159_winter2023)

### Forest & Bird magazine archive

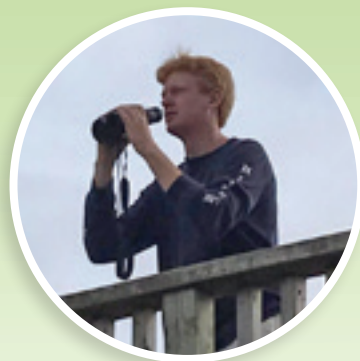
[paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals/forest-and-bird/1930](http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals/forest-and-bird/1930)



**Oscar** has been advocating for kōkākō since he was 12. He campaigned in 2015 and 2016. **In 2016, kōkākō won!**



**George** loves pohowera | banded dotterels. He campaigned for them from 2016 to 2019. He was 13 when he started. **Bandie came 4th in 2019.**



**Michael** successfully got rowi into the BOTY competition in 2018 when he was 16. He'll be campaigning again this year.

## Get ready for the competition

# TIPS AND TRICKS FOR CAMPAIGNERS

Getting involved in Bird of the Year (BOTY) is great fun, AND it's also a great way to help birds. Why? **The more people we get to know and care about our brilliant birds, the more they'll want to protect them!**

**Oscar Thomas, George Hobson, and Michael Burton-Smith** are all bird lovers and seasoned BOTY campaigners. Here are their best tips and tricks to help you to get your bird winning the competition.

### Pick a bird that you genuinely love with all your heart - your number 1

Enthusiasm helps you to campaign for your bird and gets people to listen to what you have to say. Know why your bird matters to you.



Why banded dotterel?

"They're floofy, they're adorable, they need our help!" - George

### Tell absolutely everyone you know to vote for your bird

Spread the word anywhere, anytime, to anyone who will listen!

Get your family, school, clubs, and local community behind you and your bird.

Use social media (with adult support if you're under 13). See if you can get into the media (newsletters, newspapers, radio, TV) - this can really boost votes!

### Hatch a plan

The most essential aspect of any great campaign is planning. Start a brainstorm to plan what you're going to do, and prepare for a long two weeks of nail-biting fun!

### Represent your bird



Be a visible part of your campaign. People love it when young people get behind a bird. Use this to your advantage!

### Alliances

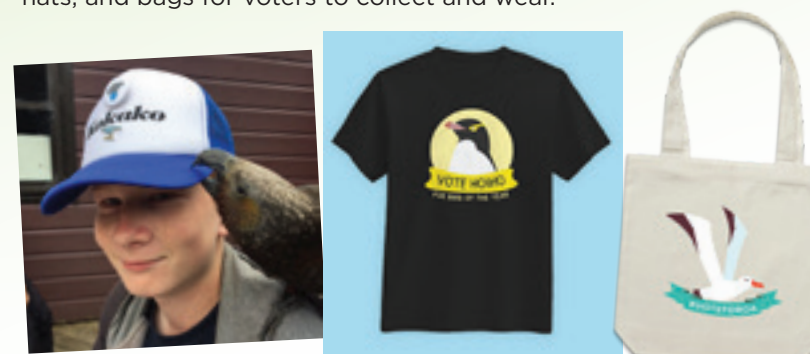
Has your bird got something in common with other birds in the competition? With the way BOTY voting works now (where you pick five birds instead of just one), it can pay to "team up" to campaign together with others and get more votes for your birds.



Meme by South Island Kokako for Bird of the year 2022

### Competitions and supporter gear

Holding competitions with prizes can be a great technique to reel in potential voters. You can ask companies to sponsor you with prizes to give away. BOTY teams have had lots of fun designing t-shirts, hats, and bags for voters to collect and wear.



Previous gear by teams Vote Kōkako, Vote Hoiho, and Vote Toroa



Meme by Albatross for Bird of the Year #VoteToroa

### Engaging photos, graphics, and videos

Collect together high quality images and footage of your bird (make sure you have permission to use them). Use them as they are to show off your bird's best features, and remix them in fun and funny ways that will appeal to voters (like making memes).

### Keep campaigning

It's very rare that your bird will win BOTY in the first year you campaign for it, especially if you've chosen one that needs more attention and more love. Keep backing your bird, and campaign for it each year. This will help build up support.



# WHICH BIRD SHOULD I PICK?

Remember you get five choices! Not all have to come from the same group. Looking for other options? Go to [birdoftheyear.org.nz](http://birdoftheyear.org.nz) for the full list of competitors.

I like my birds...



round

loud

colourful

full of sugar

floofy

confident in water

to travel

teeny-tiny

secretive

From eating berries?

Finders keepers!

And a thief?

I'd rather them whistle

Like, really bright?

Parties day or night?

Night

Day

With long elegant legs?

Far or fast?

Far

Fast

How to you feel about hopping?

Hip hop, you don't stop...

I prefer climbing

Ewww...

Are nests out of bounds?

Rob the nest

Stick with the shiny and food

Primary and secondary colours!

More neutrals please...

Nice!

I'd prefer a waddler...

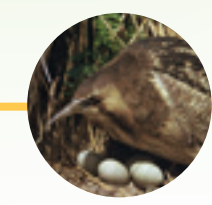
Nom nom nom...



Mātātā | Fernbird



Pūweto | Spotless crane



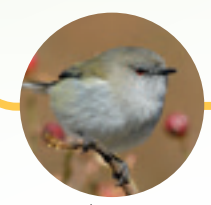
Matuku | Bittern



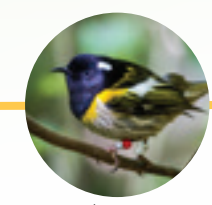
Moho pererū | Banded rail



Tutukiwi | Subantarctic snipe



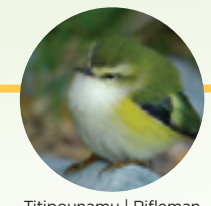
Riroriro | Grey warbler



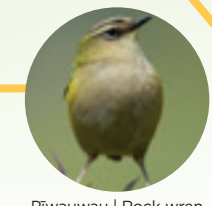
Hihi | Stitchbird



Kakaruaia | Black robin



Titipounamu | Rifleman



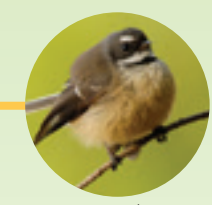
Piwauwau | Rock wren



Kōtuku ngutupapa | Spoonbill



Rock hopper



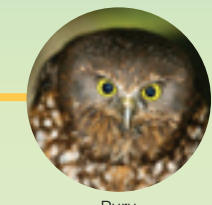
Pīwakawaka | Fantail



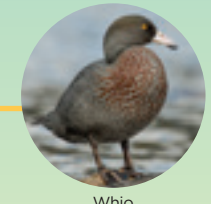
Pick a kiwi



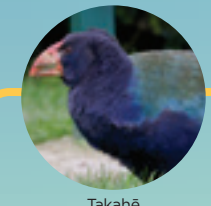
Pohowera | Banded dotterel



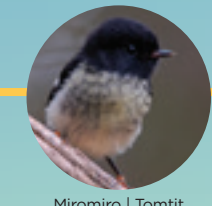
Ruru



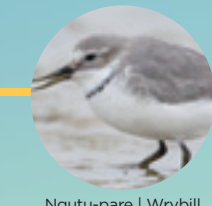
Whio



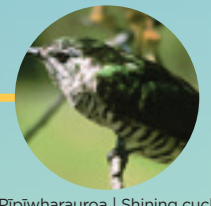
Takahē



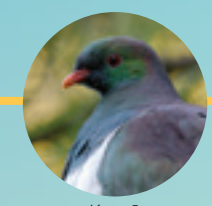
Miromiro | Tomtit



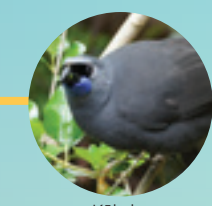
Ngutu-pare | Wrybill



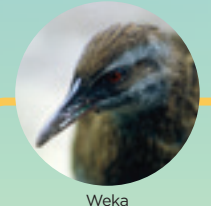
Pīpīwharauora | Shining cuckoo



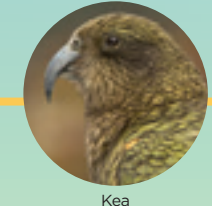
Kererū



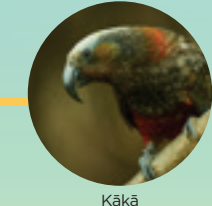
Kōkako



Weka



Kea



Kākā



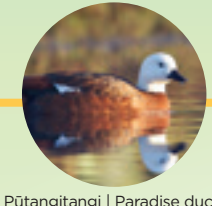
Kōtare | Kingfisher



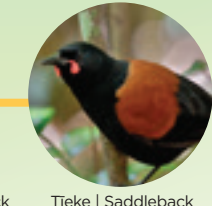
Mohua | Yellowhead



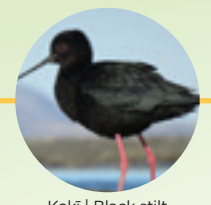
Kākāriki karaka | Orange-fronted parakeet



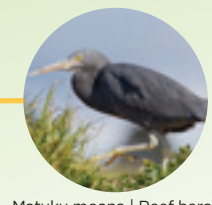
Pūtangitangi | Paradise duck



Tieke | Saddleback



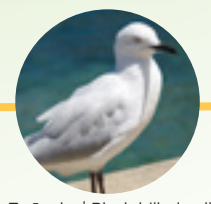
Kakī | Black stilt



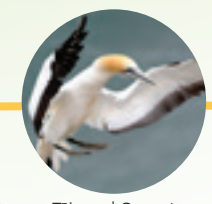
Matuku moana | Reef heron



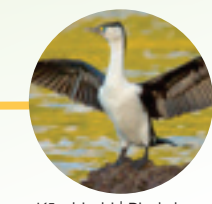
Kororā | Little penguin



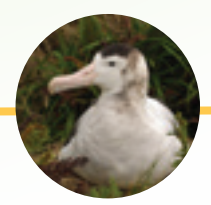
Tarāpuka | Black-billed gull



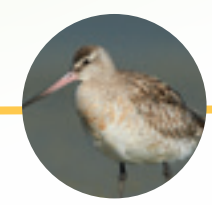
Tākapu | Gannet



Kāruhiruhi | Pied shag



Toroa | Antipodean albatross



Kuaka | Bar-tailed godwit



Koekoeā | Long-tailed cuckoo



Kāhu | Harrier hawk



Kārearea | Falcon

Thanks Darren Van Hoof, FAB regional conservation manager for your help!

He tino māmā rawa atu ahau | I'm the lightest.

Ko riorioro tōku ingoa | My name is grey warbler.

Grey warblers (*Gerygone igata*) weigh just 6g. That's about the same as half a tablespoon of sugar!



# WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "SMALL"?

It helps to be specific when it comes to our manu | birds!

He tino poto rawe atu ahau | I'm the shortest.

Ko tītipounamu tōku ingoa | My name is rifleman.

Rifleman (*Acanthisitta chloris*) have very short tails. That means they can be just 7-9cm long. That's about the same as one-and-a-half golf tees!



## Kei a wai | Who has it?

### The smallest egg?

This is life-sized!  
16mm x 12.5mm



P ī \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ a

# OUR BBBS BIG BEAUTIFUL BIRDS!

Can you name all these birds in English or te reo Māori?

## Stand out from the crowd like us...

Kākāpō are super unique in the parrot world. Big, nocturnal, flightless, and lek-breeding - they certainly haven't just evolved with the flow! Kōkako from different regions in NZ have distinct ways they sing. Sometimes, even birds from the same area sing differently to one another.

I'm a

I'm a

## Be helpful like us...

Kākā are an important pollinator of many native NZ plants. Kererū spread the seeds of more than 70 native forest plants.

I'm a

I'm a

I'm a

## Learn like us...

Weka and kea are super inquisitive. That's why they'll often make temporary collections of interesting things. They want to get a closer look at them and to learn.

I'm a



Look at the pictures and the clues and match them to the birds in the quiz.

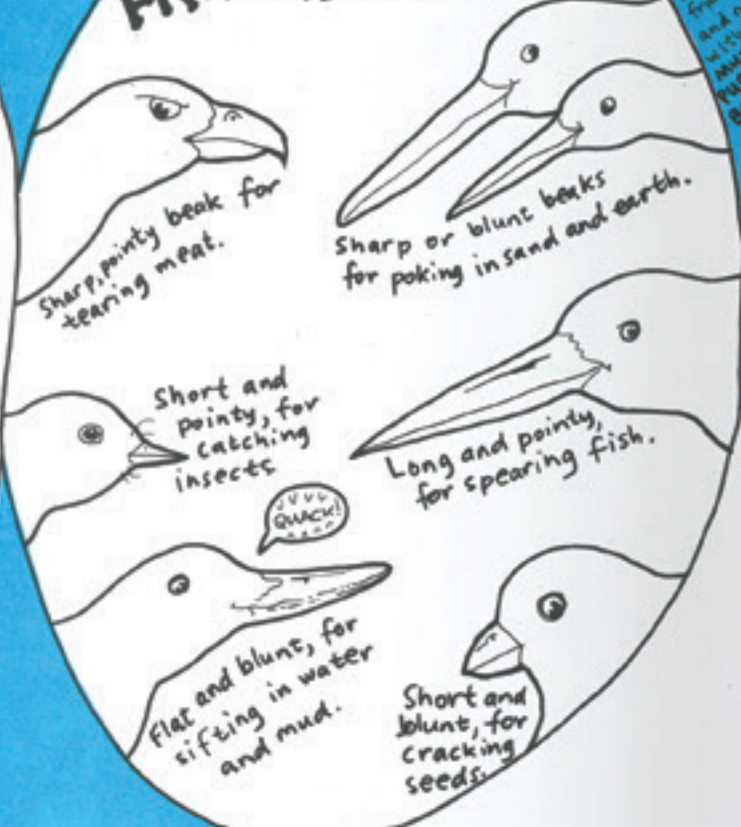
# What do these birds do?

... with CLUES for

## CLUES FROM WINGS:

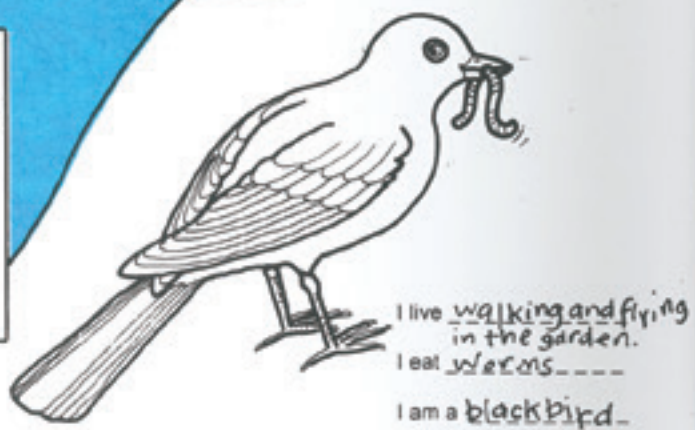


## CLUES FROM BEAKS:



- 'I LIVE' CLUES:**
- swimming in lakes and rivers
  - flying high over land
  - soaring over the sea
  - paddling in estuaries
  - flying and darting amongst trees
  - flying and walking in gardens
  - walking and running in forest

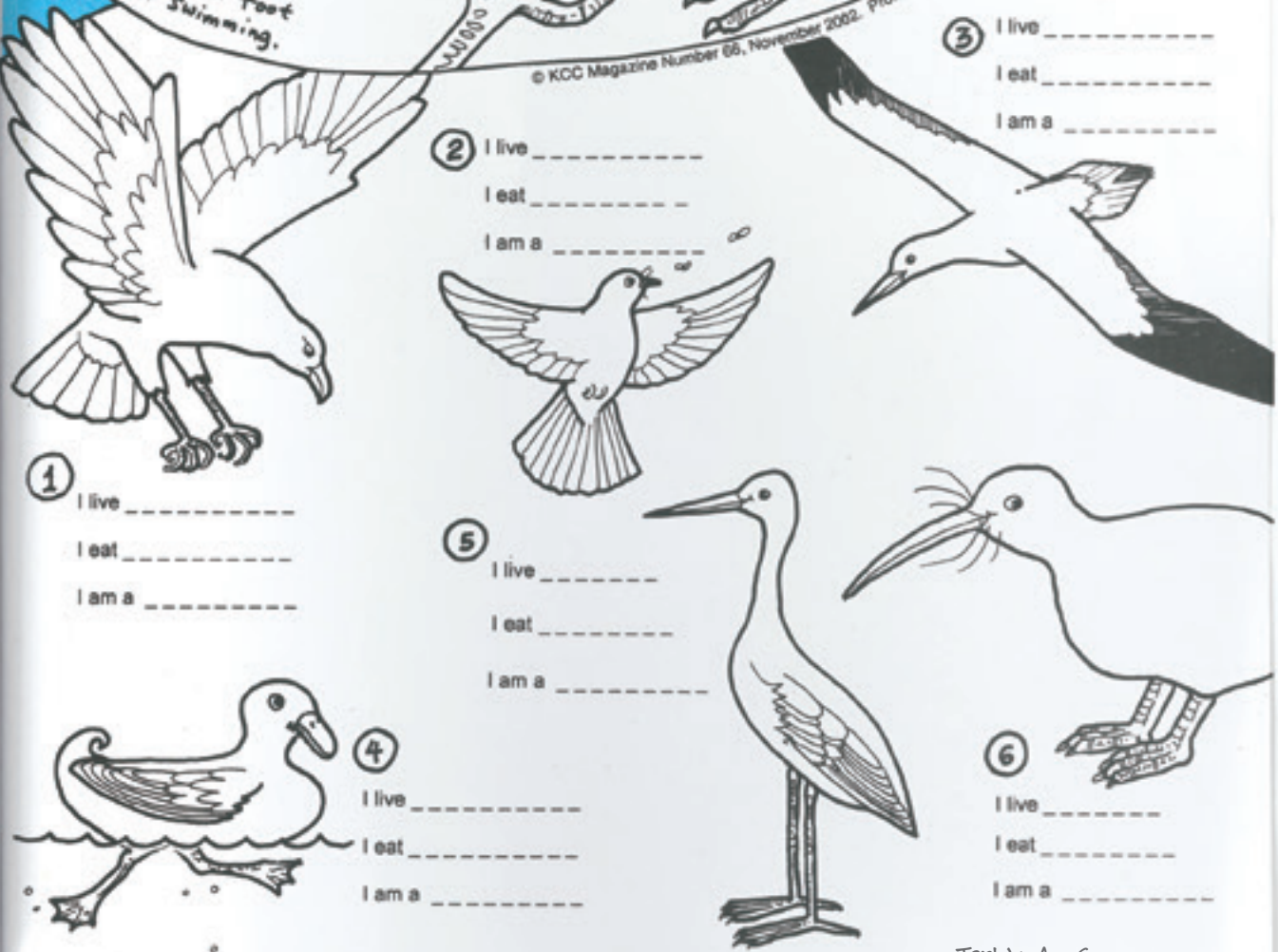
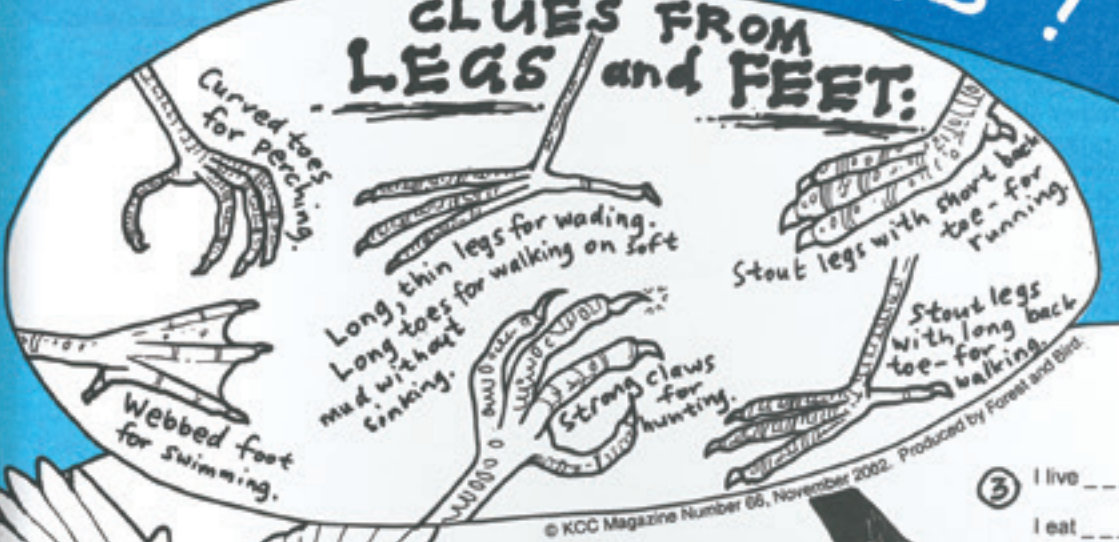
- 'I EAT' CLUES:**
- by spearing fish
  - by poking for worms
  - by sifting food out of mud
  - by catching insects
  - by tearing meat
  - by many of these ways



# these birds do?

KCC DETECTIVES!

## CLUES FROM LEGS and FEET:



© KCC Magazine Number 66, November 2002. Produced by Forest and Bird.

Text by Ann Graeme.  
Illustrations by Tim Galloway.

# DIVERSITY AND ADAPTATIONS

## Which beak is best?

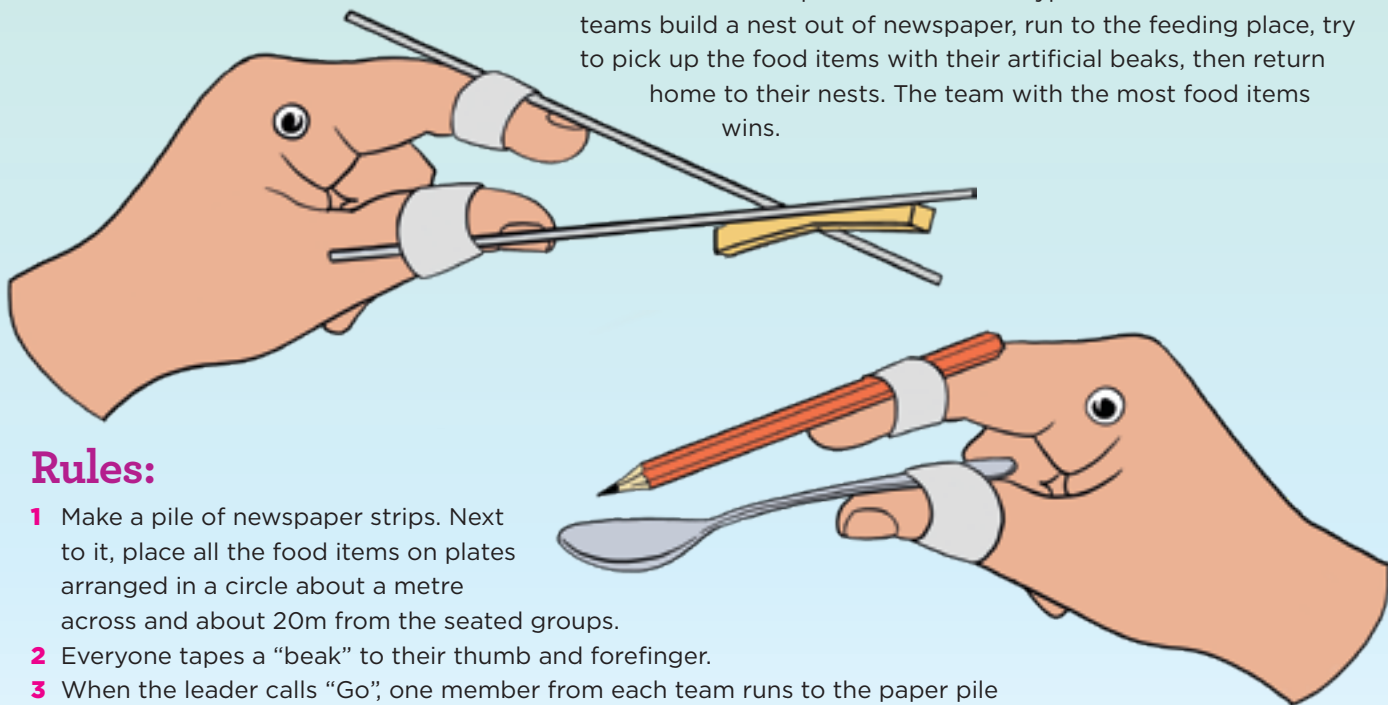
### You will need:

- A collection of food of different shapes and sizes (eg, raisins, nuts, chocolate squares, celery, marshmallows, jelly babies, crisps, pebbles, cooked spaghetti).
- A collection of different tools and utensils to make "bird beaks" (eg, knitting needles, spoons, pencils, sticks etc)
- Sticky tape
- Newspaper strips to build a nest



### What you'll find out:

You'll learn about how different types of beaks and features of different beaks help birds eat certain types of food. Individuals or teams build a nest out of newspaper, run to the feeding place, try to pick up the food items with their artificial beaks, then return home to their nests. The team with the most food items wins.



### Rules:

- 1 Make a pile of newspaper strips. Next to it, place all the food items on plates arranged in a circle about a metre across and about 20m from the seated groups.
- 2 Everyone tapes a "beak" to their thumb and forefinger.
- 3 When the leader calls "Go", one member from each team runs to the paper pile and brings back as much paper as possible only using their beak.
- 4 The second team member then runs for more nest material while the rest of the team tries to shape the newspaper into a nest with their beaks.
- 5 This continues until the leader is satisfied with the nest.
- 6 The team then sends one member at a time to "feed" from the circle of food items. They bring food items back to the nest.
- 7 When all the plates of food are empty, the team with the most food wins!
- 8 Discuss which beaks were better than others and why.

# Waterproofing

Feathers in good condition "mesh" together a bit like raincoat fabric, with gaps too small for water to get through. To keep them in good condition, we "preen". This is when we clean and straighten up our feathers and rub a special waxy oil over them with our beaks. We get the oil from our uropygial or preen gland near our tails. Waterproof feathers mean I'm able to float and dive for food in our wild rivers.

**Do this fun activity to see how the oil helps...**



### You'll need

- Paper
- Scissors
- Cooking oil
- Cup of water
- Sponge/eyedropper (or similar)

Who | Blue duck.  
© Karova

- Step 1 Cut out two paper feathers.
- Step 2 Rub a small amount of cooking oil onto just one of the paper feathers and let it soak in.
- Step 3 Use a dropper or sponge to squeeze drops of water onto the paper feathers.
- Step 4 Tilt the feathers and watch what happens.

TRACE ME!

1



2



3



4



4

**HINT:** the oil keeps feathers in good condition much longer.

Forest & Bird's Lenz Reserve at Tautuku, in the Catlins, has a very special wetland... and a creature that remains an enigma.

Listen to this secretive bird's story being read on our website! [kcc.org.nz](http://kcc.org.nz)



## Mystery of the matuku hūrepo | Australasian bittern

By Francesca Cunninghame, Forest & Bird's Otago Projects manager



S edge plants and boggy water surrounded me. The only thing I could do to keep from sinking waist deep into the suction mud of this Fleming Wetland was to hop from carex plant to carex plant, holding on tightly. I felt as if they had to be here, somewhere among this rarely visited wetland. With their secretive behaviour, inconspicuous plumage, and inaccessibility of habitat, it was going to be a challenge to find them even if they were here. We have been eager to know if the critically endangered matuku hūrepo | Australasian bittern is present in the area. I needed to look at previous records to get an idea of the likelihood that this species was still around – maybe I should have done this before heading into the wetland.

Out of my soggy pocket, I pulled out the old report as if it were a treasure map. In 1987, Rhys Buckingham wrote in his report *Birds of the Catlins Region*:

*Rare and declining, not observed in the survey. These birds were formerly common in wetland habitats of the Catlins district, now they are rarely seen. None were seen on the present survey (1987) but several good reports of their presence are known: 1956 bittern present in Tahakopa. Bittern breeding in summer 1976/77, two chicks fledged and banded. 1981 becoming rare but often seen in local swampland. Tautuku Estuary in 1982 one seen "a few years ago". Tahakopa Valley one seen in 1981.*

It had been 40 years since the last recorded sighting, but looking around me, in a wetland still surrounded by native forest, I felt that they *should* still be here. I could almost hear the deep low boom booom boom, the call of the creature, but it was just in my mind.

Three years ago, DOC loaned us two acoustic recorders to

monitor for sounds from the bitterns in spring/summer. One was put at the Tautuku Estuary and one at the Tahakopa Estuary. However, no records of bittern "booming" came up. Maybe we were too late in the season.

But... we were hopeful these cryptic and rarely seen birds were still around.

On a dark evening in April of 2019, everything changed. Forest & Bird members Fergus Sutherland and Gavin White were driving along the road after dark, and there, on the side of the road just before the Tautuku River bridge, was an Australasian bittern. A blurry photo was taken. This was the first record (that we know about) of a bittern in the area for several decades.

In September 2020, while returning from a day's field work, I flushed a matuku hūrepo in the lower Fleming Wetland. The bird took flight from the other side of a carex plant (2m away from me) – and flew upstream further into the wetland. This is the first record of this species inside Forest & Bird's Lenz Reserve.

Finally, in March 2021, Jill and Martin Bonny (Lenz Reserve volunteer wardens) saw an Australasian bittern while kayaking in the Tahakopa Estuary. The bird froze with its neck straight up before it flew off. A photo was taken as it flew away.

So, after a long absence of any records of this species in the area, we have obtained three confirmed records across three consecutive wetlands in the last two years. What does this mean?

Our key question now is whether they live here in our Forest & Bird Tautuku Restoration Project area or are just passing through – so we are planning more-thorough acoustic monitoring in all three wetlands. Thanks to the support from our local Forest & Bird branches and Jobs for Nature funding, we have been able to purchase our own acoustic monitors, which can detect Australasian bitterns. If they indeed live here, then we want to better protect them.

The clicking and popping of the muddy edge of the wetland was all I heard as I walked away from today's unsuccessful bittern hunt. Stay tuned for more sightings of the mysterious matuku hūrepo as we try to learn more about them in our project area.

Send your best drawing of a bittern to

[kcc@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:kcc@forestandbird.org.nz).



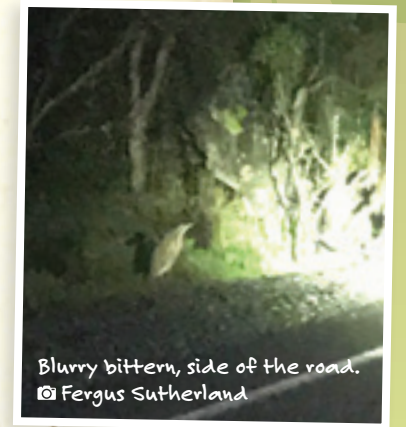
TAUTUKU/  
CATLINS



Illustration of  
Tautuku Estuary  
by Fergus  
Sutherland



Australasian  
bittern. © Lauren  
Buchholz



Blurry bittern, side of the road.  
© Fergus Sutherland



Bittern flying off at Tahakopa  
Estuary. © Jill Bonny



# Make your own bird wings

## STEP 1 & 2: Measure your "wing span" and make the "bones" for your wings

A bird's wingspan is the distance between the tip of one wing to the tip of the other.

Stand up straight with your arms out to the side, using your body to make the letter "T". With help, measure the distance from your middle fingertip to the other fingertip – this will be your wingspan!

Cut your cardboard into long strips about 10cm wide. Tape them together to make a rectangle as long as your wingspan. Clearly mark the middle point on your cardboard with a pen. Make arm straps to attach at the ends too.



### You'll need:

- Tape
- Scissors
- Newspaper
- Measuring tape
- Thin cardboard (like a cereal box)
- Pen



## STEP 4: Add the first layer of converts

Use a whole page of newspaper for these feathers. Tape them on as in the picture. The converts at the ends should be on a little bit of an angle.

**Convert feathers** are contour feathers that cover over the base of the flight feathers.

⋮ = middle point



## STEP 3: Add the flight feathers

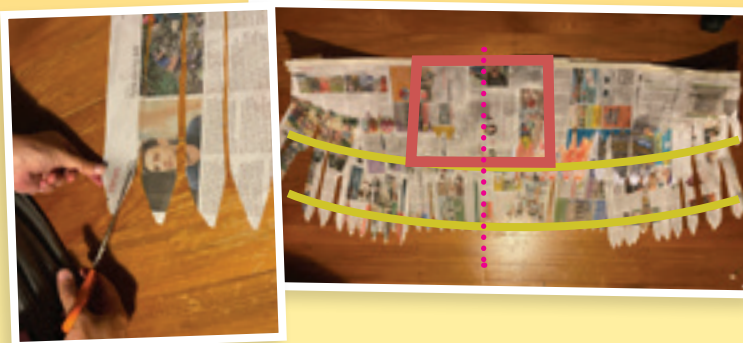
Use a whole spread of newspaper (two pages joined) for these feathers so they are long. Tape them on as in the picture. The primaries should be on a little bit of an angle.

- The **primary feathers** are the largest flight feathers and help the bird propel (push) through the air. If they are lost or damaged, a bird can't fly. Most birds have 10 of these feathers. Together, they are a bit like the "hand" of the wing.
- The **secondary feathers** go along the "arm" of the wing and help birds lift and stay up in the air.
- The **tertiary feathers** are on the "upper arm" part of the wing. They are much shorter than the others.

## STEP 5: Add the second layer of converts & the alula

Use a whole page of newspaper turned sideways for the convert feathers and a half page kept straight up and down for the alula feathers. Tape them on as in the picture.

The **alula feathers** are attached to the "thumb" of the wing. There are usually three to five feathers. They work a bit like slats on the wing of a plane, helping to get even more lift.



## STEP 6: Add the scapulars

Use a quarter page turned sideways. Tape on in the middle as in the picture.

Once you've made both sides of your wings, add the **scapular feathers**. They cover the "shoulders" or the base of the wings.

## STEP 7: Cut and shape the feathers.

Fringe cut each layer of newspaper, then cut the ends to make them look like feathers. Extra for experts: **Curve the shape** of the converts and alula feathers so your wings look more bird-like.

## Optional: Decorate your wings

Make them represent you with colour/s and patterns!



Send us photos of your mahi to [kcc@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:kcc@forestandbird.org.nz)

Thanks Alina, our KCC Volunteer Advisor, for being our wing model!

# How do pīwakawaka make their nests?

Pīwakawaka are expert weavers. They make their nests with moss, bark fibre, dried grasses, dried rotten wood, and rootlets, joined all together with spider webs!

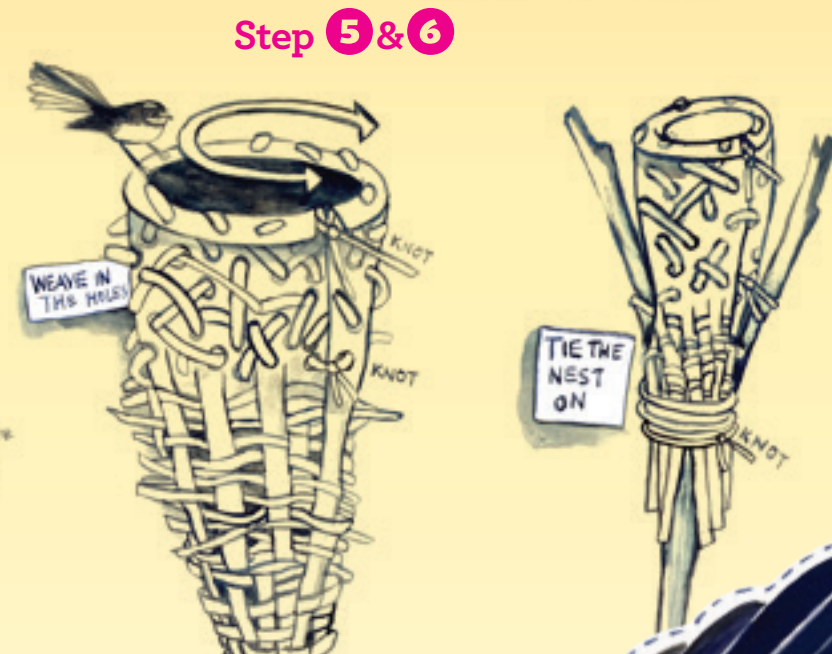
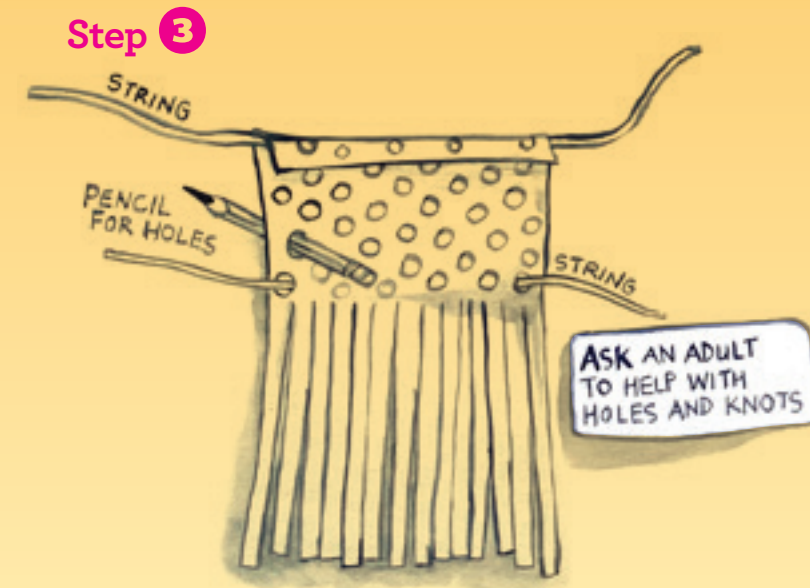
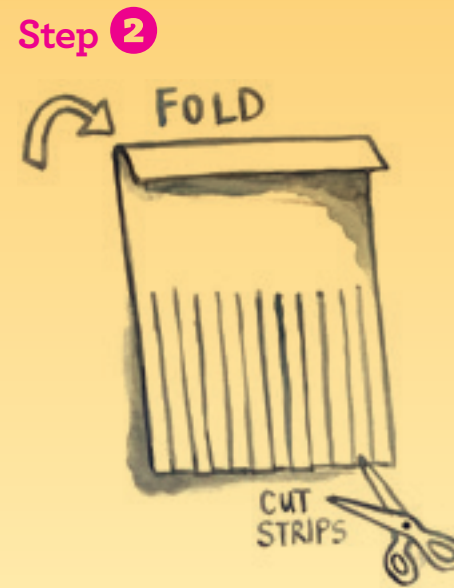
Practice your nest-weaving skills with this activity from artist Margaret Tolland.



**Step 1**  
USE THE SIDE OF A CARDBOARD CEREAL BOX (FOR A STRONGER NEST), OR THE TEMPLATE OVER THE PAGE.

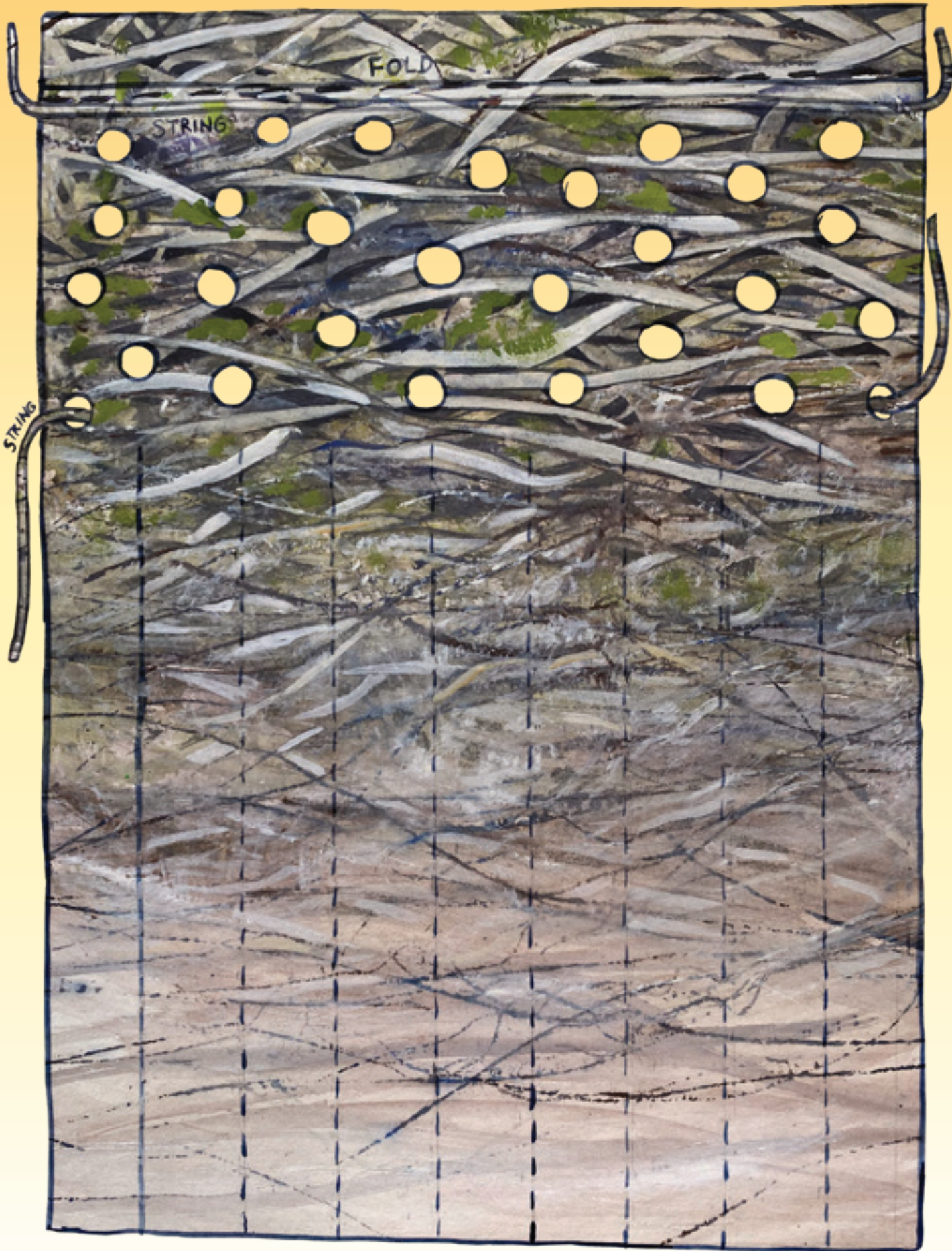
## Other pīwakawaka nest-building facts:

- Nests are slightly smaller than a tennis ball and usually have a "tail" below the base.
- Nests are lined with materials like animal hair and tree-fern hairs.
- Nests are most often built at a branch fork, one with good leaf cover above it to help hide the nest away from view.



CUT ME OUT AND PUT ME IN OR ON YOUR NEST.





# Stories behind stamps

As part of Forest & Bird's 100th birthday, we worked with NZ Post and the artist Rachel Walker to design four stamps that told the story of Forest & Bird. These two are the most bird-rific!

## Kāpiti Island stamp \$1.70

This stamp features **Kāpiti Island** with its colourful forest birds – kōkako, tīeke, kakariki, and tūi – and is connected to the origin story of Forest & Bird.

Captain Ernest “Val” Sanderson was a founding father of modern-day conservation, and Kāpiti Island was the inspiration for his life's work. After winning a long-running battle to protect and restore the island's unique flora and fauna in 1922, Sanderson wanted to achieve the same results at scale across the rest of Aotearoa. Realising he needed more clout, he assembled a group of nature-loving volunteers and founded the Native Bird Protection Society, later Forest & Bird, in 1923. It was the first of New Zealand's modern-day conservation groups. Sanderson led the organisation for the next 22 years, working tirelessly to protect the birds and the bush. He was one of the first conservationists to raise awareness of the devastating impact that introduced deer, goats, possums, rats, cats, and stoats were having on the country's native forests and birdlife. He was also concerned about soil erosion and its impact on our rivers. He spoke up to be the voice for the birds who couldn't speak for themselves.

This stamp also pays tribute to the legacy of “mum and dad” armies of conservation volunteers who pioneered island restoration from the 1960s onwards, helping provide vital refuges for many critically endangered species today. Forest & Bird conservation volunteers have spent years planting and eradicating pests from offshore islands.



## Mountains to Sea stamp \$3.80

This stamp features **Ark in the Park**, in the Waitākere Ranges. You'll see the tāiko | black petrel, and tītī | Cook's petrel flying in the background. This artwork represents the seabirds of Aotearoa, Forest & Bird's marine protection work, and the vital connection between land and the ocean. Aotearoa is known as the seabird capital of the world.



## Suggested activities

- Choose one of the bird species featured on the stamps and carry out research to create a fact card, presentation, visual language piece, or creative writing to share your knowledge of the species and encourage people to care about it.
- Design your own stamp featuring birds from your local region. What story is your stamp telling about the species you have chosen?
- Investigate one of the elements of the text or stamps that interests you. Perhaps you want to know more about impact of pests on birds or the link between kauri and tāiko?

# 26 FOREST & BIRD CENTENNIAL

A VERY SPECIAL CREATIVE PROJECT

## WALTER SCOTT RESERVE

MT PIRONGIA, WAIKATO

Forest & Bird teamed up with 26 writers and artists for an exciting project to mark its 100th birthday. These creative people visited 13 of Forest & Bird's 120 conservation projects around the country. The locations showcase a variety of habitats, species, and interesting natural features.

Each writer created an original centena, and each artist created an original artwork. You can read and see the pieces on the Forest & Bird website.

Here are two of the creations.



**ARTIST**  
Dannika Tukua



**Ngahere kōrero.**  
**MEDIUM:** Acrylic paint and pen.

### GOING WITHOUT

*So much change.*

*That noise is a drone  
herding sheep  
without dogs.*

*Those collars corral cows  
obeying GPS signals  
without fences.*

*But this bushy slope  
on the mountain's shoulder thrives  
without technology.*

*These 100 acres hum with silence,  
glow with green,  
smell of loam and leaf fall  
and showcase tender baby ferns  
that draw circles in the air.*

*No whizzy gadgets here.*

*But only one pīwakawaka speaks up,  
one kererū lumbers by,  
one distant tūi calls.*

*Shouldn't there be more?*

*Just as well kind people  
mindfully tend this place,  
for without their care  
there will be*

*Oh, so much change.*



**WRITER**  
Lindsey Dawson

### Centena challenge

A centena is a poem of exactly 100 words that must start and finish with the same three words. Can you research one of the animals or plants from the centena or picture and create your own centena about them?

### What's the story challenge?

Using the artwork as inspiration, create a play that tells the story of what you think the birds are saying to each other.

### Plan a trip challenge

The centena and artwork were created after visiting the Walter Scott Reserve in Waikato. Can you plan a trip for your family to visit this amazing place? You need to describe:

- Where it's located and how you will get there
- Where you will stay
- What the environment is like and how that might influence what you take with you
- What animals and plants you may see.