

A book well worth having, not only because it is the work of a talented New Zealand naturalist but also because it is a valuable addition to the range of recent books on Papua New Guinea and South-west Pacific birds.

B. D. HEATHER

Birds that came back, by John Gooders. 1983. Andre Deutsch. 178 pp., 46 b/w & 14 col. photos. \$45.75.

Recounts the decline of birds that almost or wholly disappeared from Britain in historical times, hastened by human action; and the reappearance of some. In defiance of the title, it also recounts the successful and attempted colonising of Britain by new species. The efforts of man to encourage, guard and legislate for declining, re-establishing, colonising and reintroduced species are well covered. Although very readable and of wide general appeal, it is too expensive for most private libraries.

B. D. HEATHER

LETTER

30 July 1983

The Editor,
Sir,

B. Drey's observation on a kiwi attempting to incubate a beer bottle (*Notornis* 30 (2): 135-6) is certainly unusual but may not be unique. I have just finished Ray Tinsley's *Call of the Moose* (Reed, 1983), in which he recalls a 1979 hunting camp at Cascade Cove at which he and his companion "said goodbye to a kiwi which was trying to hatch a bottle in a hole under a tree behind the little hut" (p. 73). One wonders what the kiwis did before the now-ubiquitous beer bottles were available.

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