

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.

Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

Antipodes island parakeet: p 213.

ANTIPODES ISLAND PARAKEET

The Antipodes Island Parakeet (*Cyanoramphus unicolor*) This lives side-by-side with Reischeks Parakeet (*C. novaezelandiae hochstetteri*). It is considered to have evolved from a very early arrival of a Red-crowned Parakeet ancestor. This bird is all green in colour, larger than Reischeks being 360 mm in length, and is ground feeding. It clammers around on the ground using its beak and its wings as added support, and has been likened to a small Kakapo. Although it can fly, it seldom does.

Captive birds can be seen at Mount Bruce National Wildlife Centre (P. 333), and at Te Anau Wildlife Reserve (P. 369) where it is breeding well in captivity.