

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
Based on: Watola, G. 2009. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (2nd Edition)  
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.  
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Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)  
Rock pigeon: pp 226-227.

**Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia* Gmelin 1789  
1855 Chatham Island  
March 1790 Norfolk Island

Christian (2005) recounts the story of the introduction of Rock Pigeons to Norfolk Island. Jack Nagle, a sailor aboard *HMS Sirius* which was wrecked on Norfolk Island in March 1790 wrote that all the feral pigeons descended from two present onboard. One had flown onto the ship off Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the other flew onboard at Table Bay, South Africa. There are no definite records of first introduction sites in New Zealand, but it was probably introduced as early as the 1850s. Buller (1891) recorded "Blue Rock Pigeons" on Chatham Island in 1855, in company with Chatham Island Pigeons. Hutton (1871) said they had not gone wild yet.

