

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.

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

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

Black robin: p 249.



### BLACK ROBIN

**Family** Eopsaltriidae

**Species** *Petroica traversi*

**Common name** Black Robin or Chatham Island Robin

**Status** Endemic

**Abundance** Rare

**Size** 150 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, New Zealand Robin 180 mm)

**Discussion** Found only on South-east Island and Mangere Island in the Chatham Island group. Its survival is due to a major breeding campaign between 1979 and 1988 led by Brian Bell and Don Merton from the then Wildlife Service. This set about reversing the declining numbers from a remaining stock of one female bird and four male birds which had persisted on Little Mangere Island. From Little Mangere Island birds were transferred to nearby Mangere Island and later South-east Island where eggs from the remaining female bird known

as “Old Blue”, were transferred to the nests of first Grey Warbler foster parents and subsequently and successfully to Tomtits’ nests.

### **Description**

**Upper and underparts** All black.

**How to view** Contact the Department of Conservation in Wellington.