

— — Curriculum Vitae for Dr Brent M. Stephenson — —

Current position: Photographer, Ornithologist, Birding guide

Address: PO Box 8291 (physical address 70 Te Aute Road)
Havelock North 4157
New Zealand

Phone: + 64 6 877 6388
Mobile: + 64 274 426 638
e-mail: brent@eco-vista.com
Websites: <http://www.eco-vista.com> and <http://www.wrybill-tours.com>

Date & place of birth: 20 December 1974, Hastings, New Zealand

My current working life allows me the flexibility and opportunity to travel. I love traveling and educating people about wildlife, and in particular birds. Working on Cruise ships is for me an exciting way of mixing these two goals, being able to show people strange and unusual things, and telling them a story about it at the same time. My ability as a photographer and communicator mean that I am able to effectively present this information, both formally and informally. I have the necessary skills to be a competent and reliable Expedition staff member and team player. In the last few years I have worked in many parts of the World from the Arctic to the Antarctic, and in between.

Academic qualifications:

PhD in Zoology, Massey University, New Zealand
MSc in Ecology with First Class Honours, Massey University, New Zealand
BSc majoring in Zoology and Environmental Science, Massey University, New Zealand

Work experience:

Expedition Staff, Cruise Ships December 2005-present
Onboard Ornithologist and zodiac driver during almost 30 cruises, both in the Pacific, Arctic, Antarctic, Indian Ocean and Central America. Presented lectures on various aspects of ornithology and participated in evening recaps presenting photos taken during the trip and question and answer sessions. Competent zodiac driver and snorkel guide, current first aider and hold a firearms license.

Birding guide, Wrybill Birding Tours, NZ December 2003-present
Co-owner of Wrybill Birding Tours, NZ with a friend and colleague Sav Saville (see website for details). We guide international visitors around New Zealand on tours of varying lengths to observe New Zealand's avian gems. Organised and led more than 25 pelagic birding trips in NZ.

Contract Researcher, Various January 2005 - present
Principal investigator on a National Geographic funded New Zealand storm-petrel project, plus other free-lance contract research. Currently involved with several conservation projects catching and relocating birds, plus working for several New Zealand power companies doing bird monitoring at proposed windfarm sites. I have previously conducted other contract research, including working for Department of Conservation on the Chatham Island Taiko project, radio-tracking, and various projects working with New Zealand storm-petrel, kiwi, Australasian gannets, and bird banding and blood sampling.

Freelance photographer and writer, ECO-VISTA: Photography & Research 1990-present
Currently specialising in photographing New Zealand's wildlife, especially birds, with a considerable focus on seabirds. I have approximately 40,000 digital images in my library, as well as almost 5,000 slides. My images regularly appear in magazines and books, and I write articles for New Zealand and Australian magazines. See website for details.

Bird Ranger, Department of Conservation, NZ

October 2003 – September 2005

Hired initially to conduct bird surveys, my work also includes monitoring North Island brown kiwi using radio telemetry equipment, capturing and handling the birds, and refitting transmitters. Other work included pest control, report writing, and staff management (as Acting Team Leader).

Research and career highlights:

The rediscovery of the supposedly-extinct New Zealand storm-petrel *Pealeornis maoriana* is undoubtedly my greatest experience, and is recognised internationally as being a significant ornithological event (see website for details). The species was only known from three museum specimens collected in the 1800s until it was resighted by Sav Saville and myself on 25 January 2003. The photos taken by me were what eventually led to the rediscovery, the first photos ever taken of this species alive.

Other highlights-

- Sailing with the legendary John Ridgway on his ‘Save the Albatross’ Voyage 2003-4 from Wellington, New Zealand, across the Southern Pacific, around Cape Horn, and up to the Falklands. As part of this voyage a huge effort was placed on educating the public of the continuing plight of seabirds (see Appendix Two for talks given by me). As a result of the campaign a petition with 105,000 signatures from 131 countries was presented to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome, June 2004.
- Completion of a PhD dissertation entitled “Variability in the breeding ecology of Australasian gannets, *Morus serrator*, at Cape Kidnappers, New Zealand” in January 2005, which provided the first in depth information across three breeding seasons in New Zealand. It documented major breeding failures as a natural event caused by low food availability and starvation, rather than as a result of human disturbance, which had been believed since the 1920s.
- Leading several expeditions to capture New Zealand storm-petrels, and subsequently being the Principal Investigator on a National Geographic funded project to conduct this work. To date we have capture six birds at sea, which has led to the official rediscovery of the species thought extinct for 150+ years. This work is ongoing.

Society membership and positions held:

Ornithological Society of New Zealand (OSNZ) (since 1987)
 Moderator/creator of BIRDING-NZ email newsgroup
 OSNZ Website creator and webmaster, 2000-present
 Regional Representative of the Hawke’s Bay Region of the OSNZ, 2000-2002
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK (since 1990)
 Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, NZ (since 2003)
 Core-team member of the National Oiled Wildlife Response Team (2005-present)

Scholarships/fellowships awarded:

New Zealand Ornithological Congress Trust Board (NZOCTB) Travel Fellowship (to attend 23rd IOC in Beijing, China), 2002
 Massey University PhD Scholarship 1999-2002
 NZOCTB Travel Fellowship (to attend 22nd IOC in Durban, South Africa), 1998

Certificates and licenses held:

New Zealand drivers license (including Passenger endorsement)
 ATV handlers certificate
 New Zealand firearms license
 New Zealand Boatmasters certificate
 St John First Aid certificate
 PADI certified Openwater diver
 US C1/D VISA

Cruise ship lecture topics:

Extinctions and Rediscoveries
Seabirds of the Tropical Oceans
Southern Ocean seabirds

Seabirds of the North Pacific: on loan from New Zealand
The gannets and boobies

The breeding biology of the Australasian gannet
New Zealand's amazing birds

Wildlife of the Falkland Islands

Birding 101: an introduction to tweetie-birds and the weird people that watch them

The above are lectures I have prepared in the past, but additional lectures on other topics are possible.

Peer reviewed publications:

- Stephenson, B.M., Gaskin, C. Griffiths, R., Jamieson, H., Baird, K., Palma, R.L., and Imber, M.J. Submitted. The New Zealand storm-petrel *Pealeornis maoriana*: first captures and assessment of an enigmatic seabird.
- Stephenson, B.M. In press. Prey caching behaviour in morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). *Notornis*.
- Imber, M.J. and Stephenson, B.M. 2008. Sightings and capture of Kermadec storm petrels (*Pelagodroma marina albiclunus*), off Haszard Island and the Meyer Islets, Kermadec Islands, in 2004. *Notornis* 55: 166-170.
- Stephenson, B.M., Flood, R., Thomas, B., Saville, S. 2008. Rediscovery of the New Zealand storm petrel (*Pealeornis maoriana* Mathews 1932): two sightings that revised our knowledge of storm petrels. *Notornis* 55: 77-83.
- Daniel, C., Millar, C.D., Ismar, S.M.H., Stephenson, B., Hauber, M.E. 2007. Evaluating molecular and behavioural sexing methods for the Australasian gannet (*Morus serrator*). *Australian Journal of Zoology* 55: 377-382.
- Stephenson, B.M., Robertson, C.J.R., Minot, E.O., Springett, B.P. 2006. Understanding global trends in seabirds – are there winners and losers? *Acta Zoologica Sinica* 52 (supplement): 653-656.
- Stephenson, B.M., Minot E.O. 2006. Breeding biology of morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*) on Mokoia Island, Lake Rotorua, New Zealand. *Notornis* 53: 308–315
- Robertson C.J.R., Stephenson B.M. 2005. Cape gannet (*Sula capensis*) breeding at Cape Kidnappers, New Zealand. *Notornis* 52: 238-242.
- Stephenson, B.M., Minot, E.O., Armstrong, D.P. 1999. Fate of moreporks (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*) during a pest control operation on Mokoia Island, Lake Rotorua, North Island, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Ecology* 23: 233-240.
- Stephenson, B.M., Minot, E.O., Olsen, P. 1998. Capturing, marking and radio-tracking a small owl, the Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae* in Australasia. *Corella* 22: 104-107.
- Stephenson, B.M., Minot, E.O. 1998. Secondary poisoning of small owls during rodent eradication. In: Adams, N.J. and Slotow, R.H. (eds) *Proceedings of the 22nd International Ornithological Congress, Durban*. *Ostrich* 69: 453.

Popular press and non-peer reviewed articles:

- Stephenson, B.M. 2008. Ghost Birds. *Forest and Bird Magazine* Number 328: 38-39.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2007. Going Places – Miranda Wildlife Reserve. *Forest and Bird Magazine* Number 323: 36-38.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2006. Petrel head. *Forest and Bird Magazine* Number 321: 32-36.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2005. Going Places - Boundary Stream Mainland Island. *Forest and Bird Magazine* Number 318: 36-39.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2005. Captain Kermadec's avian isles. *Forest and Bird Magazine* Number 316: 30-35.
- Parkinson, B. and Stephenson, B.M. 2004. 'Extinct' bird found in Hauraki Gulf. *New Zealand Geographic* 68 July-August 2004: 10-12.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2004. Return of the New Zealand storm-petrel. *Wingspan* 14 (2): 20-23.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2004. Trials of Life. *Wingspan* 14 (1): 18-21.
- Saville, S. Stephenson B. and Southey I. 2003. A possible sighting of an 'extinct' bird – the New Zealand Storm-petrel, *Oceanites maorianus*. *Birding World* 16 (4) 173-175.
- Clarke, R.H. and Stephenson, B.M. 2002. A Record of the Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* on Phillip Island (Norfolk Island group), Australia *Australian Bird Watcher* 19: 261-265.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Minot, E.O. 1998. Consequences of island restoration: non-target poisoning and changes to community structure. *A Final Report to the World Wide Fund for Nature*. 96 pp.

Additionally I have given 30+ presentations at Conferences, Community Groups, and meetings (see Appendix Two for some of these).

Referees:**John Yersin**

Rowan Cottage
25 Higher Ranscombe Road
Brixham
Devon TQ5 9HF
United Kingdom
Phone + 44 1803 854033
marjons@tiscali.co.uk

John Adams

Hawke's Bay Area Office
Department of Conservation
P O Box 644 Napier
New Zealand
Phone + 64 6 834 4842
jadams@doc.govt.nz

Appendix One***Birding experience, cruise work, and research trips:***

Cruise , Voyage to Micronesia – Madang to Guam	Expedition staff	Apr 2009
Cruise , Cape to Cape – Ushuaia to Cape Town	Expedition staff	Mar 2009
Research , Hawkes Bay (NZ), Regional Council Bird monitoring	Researcher	Dec 2008
Cruise , Papeete – Fiji (French Polynesia, Cooks, Tonga, Fiji)	Expedition staff	Nov 2008
Cruise , Papeete – Papeete (Tuamotus & Marquesas)	Expedition staff	Oct 2008
Cruise , Sea of Cortez – Acapulco to Los Angeles	Expedition staff	Sept 2008
Cruise , Trans Panama – Fort Lauderdale to Acapulco	Expedition staff	Sept 2008
Cruise , Newfoundland and Maritimes – St John's to New York	Expedition staff	Aug 2008
Cruise , Greenland Exploration – Reykjavik to St John's	Expedition staff	Aug 2008
Cruise , Svalbard and Iceland – Tromso to Reykjavik	Expedition staff	July 2008
Cruise , Svalbard Adventure – Tromso to Tromso	Expedition staff	July 2008
Cruise , Maiden Voyage – London to Tromso	Expedition staff	June 2008
Research , Hawkes Bay (NZ), Catching birds for translocation	Researcher	May 2008
Cruise , Indian Ocean stepping stones	Expedition staff	Mar 2008
Cruise , Durrell Charter (Madagascar and Mauritius)	Expedition staff	Mar 2008
Cruise , Islands and atolls of the Indian Ocean	Expedition staff	Feb 2008
Cruise , Zanzibar to the Seychelles	Expedition staff	Feb 2008
Cruise , From the Cape to Zanzibar	Expedition staff	Jan 2008
Cruise , Falklands, South Georgia, & Antarctic Peninsula	Expedition staff	Dec 2007 – Jan 2008
Cruise , Antarctic Peninsula	Expedition staff	Dec 2007
Research , Hauraki Gulf (NZ), New Zealand storm-petrel research	Researcher	Oct/Nov 2007
Cruise , Kamchatka, Kuril Islands, Hokkaido (Japan)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Aug 2007
Cruise , Alaska, Aleutians, and Kamchatka	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	July 2007
Cruise , Alaska's Inside Passage	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	July 2007
Research , Hawkes Bay (NZ), Catching birds for translocation	Researcher	May/June 2007
Cruise , Hong Kong – Kobe (Japan) through Taiwan/Japan	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Apr 2007
Cruise , Brunei – Hong Kong through the Philippine Islands	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Apr 2007
Cruise , Auckland (NZ) – Thursday Island (Australia)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Mar 2007
Cruise x2 , Southern New Zealand	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Feb 2007
Cruise , Auckland (NZ) – Milford Sound (NZ)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Feb 2007
Research , Hauraki Gulf (NZ), New Zealand storm-petrel research	Researcher	Nov/Dec 2006
Research , Chatham Islands (NZ), Taiko and Oystercatcher work	Researcher	Apr 2006
Cruise , Port Moresby (PNG) – Guam	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Apr 2006
Cruise , Milford Sound (NZ) – Port Moresby (PNG)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Feb/Mar 2006
Cruise , Auckland (NZ) – Milford Sound (NZ)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Feb 2006
Cruise , Auckland (NZ) – Milford Sound (NZ)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Jan 2006
Research , Hauraki Gulf (NZ), New Zealand storm-petrel capture trip	Researcher	Jan 2006
Cruise , Milford Sound (NZ) – Auckland (NZ)	Expedition staff, Ornithologist	Dec 2005
Research , Chatham Islands (NZ), Taiko catching and radio telemetry	Researcher	Nov 2005
Research , Little Barrier Is. (NZ), Passerine blood sampling	Researcher	Sept 2005
Research , Cape Kidnappers (NZ), Australasian gannet research	Researcher/PhD fieldwork	1999-2005
Research , Mokohinau Islands (NZ), New Zealand storm-petrel work	Researcher	Dec 2004
Research , Kermadec Islands (NZ), Kermadec storm-petrel trip	Researcher/Diver	Nov 2004
Research , Miranda (NZ), Godwit and knot capture/banding	Researcher	Oct 2004
Research , Mokohinau Islands (NZ), New Zealand storm-petrel work	Researcher	Oct 2004
Research , Cuvier Island (NZ), Saddleback capture/seabird banding	Researcher	Aug 2004
Birding , Chile, South America	Birder/Photographer	Apr 2004
Birding , Falkland Islands	Birder/Photographer	Mar/Apr 2004
Research , Sailing New Zealand to Falkland Islands	Researcher	Jan/Mar 2004
Research , WWF/Environment Australia Cetacean survey in Indonesia	Researcher	Oct/Nov 2002
Birding , Hong Kong & China	Birder/Photographer	Aug/Sept 2002
Birding , Victoria & Tasmania, Australia	Birder/Photographer	June/July 2001
Birding , Norfolk Island, Australia	Birder/Photographer	May 2001
Birding , Queensland, Australia	Birder/Photographer	July/Aug 2000
Research , Mokoia Island, (NZ), Morepork research	Researcher/MSc fieldwork	1995-1998
Birding , South Africa	Birder/Photographer	Aug/Sept 1998
Birding , United Kingdom	Birder/Photographer	Jun/July 1998
Birding , Western Australia, Australia	Birder/Photographer	Aug 1996

**Appendix Two
Presentations:**

- Stephenson, B.M. 2004. John Ridgway 'Save the Albatross' Voyage 2003-4. Ornithological Society of New Zealand Scientific Day, Oamaru, New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2003 + 2004. John Ridgway 'Save the Albatross' Voyage 2003-4. Presented at three Forest and Bird meetings and 10 Rotary Club meetings in New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Saville, S. 2003. Pelagic birding around New Zealand. Ornithological Society of New Zealand Scientific Day, Wanganui, New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2001. Breeding biology of Australasian gannets (*Sula serrator*) in New Zealand. La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2001. Breeding biology of Australasian gannets (*Sula serrator*) in New Zealand. Massey University Oiled Wildlife Response Management and Cleaning Course 2001, Massey University.
- Stephenson, B.M., Minot, E.O., Springett, B.P. and Robertson, C.J.R. 2000. The effect of a La Niña summer on Australasian gannet *Sula serrator* breeding biology. 2nd Southern Hemisphere Ornithological Congress, Brisbane, Australia.
- Stephenson, B.M., Springett, B.P., Minot E.O. and Robertson, C.J.R. 2000. The effects of a La Niña summer on the breeding success of Australasian gannets (*Sula serrator*) at Cape Kidnappers. Ornithological Society of New Zealand Scientific Day, Napier, New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. 2000. Gannet biology in New Zealand. Ornithological Society of New Zealand, Manawatu Branch.
- Stephenson, B.M. 1999. Gannet population dynamics in New Zealand. PhD seminar. Ecology Group, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Minot E.O. 1998. A world wide review of the use of anticoagulants in conservation. The Inaugural joint meeting of the New Zealand and Australian Ecological Societies (Student session), Dunedin, New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Minot E.O. 1998. Home range use and territoriality in morepork on Mokoia Island. Ornithological Society of New Zealand Scientific Day, Wellington, New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. 1997. Morepork. Department of Conservation, Rotorua.
- Stephenson, B.M. 1997. Morepork. Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Manawatu Branch.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Minot E.O. 1997. Surviving Brodifacoum: The effects of an aerial poison drop on morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). The Ecological Society of New Zealand Conference (Main and Student sessions), Wellington, New Zealand.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Minot E.O. 1997. Surviving Brodifacoum: The effects of an aerial poison drop on morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). Department of Ecology Student Colloquium, Massey University.
- Stephenson, B.M. and Minot E.O. 1996. Will all the owls die?: Is secondary poisoning a problem? (Poster). 1st Southern Hemisphere Ornithological Congress, Albany, Australia.
- Stephenson, B.M. 1996. Breeding ecology of morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*) on Mokoia Island. Department of Ecology Student Colloquium, Massey University.
- Stephenson, B.M. 1996. Behavioural ecology of morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). Behaviour and Ecology Workshop, Coromandel.