

tainable forest and agriculture management scheme, land purchase for forest protection, and development of national park infrastructure including boundary definition, trails and tourist and educational facilities. This has been achieved through support to the Dominica Multiple Land Use Project run by Dr. Peter Evans of Oxford University, and to the Forestry and Wildlife Division of the Government of Dominica.

Blue-throated Macaw: The Bolivian NGO, Armonía, receives funding from the Loro Parque Fundación to census the population of the highly threatened *Ara glaucogularis*, and to develop conservation management measures involving local people. The latest reports from Armonía indicate an alarming situation where there could be fewer than 100 individuals of this species remaining in the wild state, whilst habitat destruction continues and illegal removal of young birds from the nests is a persistent threat. With continuing support from the LPF, Armonía will increase its positive working relations with local landowners to curb habitat loss and to improve protective measures. At the same time it will further develop its educational programme for the local people of the Beni, the native region of this enigmatic species.

Red-tailed Parrot: *Amazona brasiliensis* is a species endemic to the coast of Southeast Brazil, also suffering from heavy nest-poaching and even the capture of adult birds. The LPF is continuing to finance work to combat this problem in Paraná State, through Pedro Scherer Neto of the State Natural History Museum. This work includes regular monitoring of the population (about 3,500 birds in total), increased opportunities to hinder the activities of illegal removal of the birds and nest-tree destruction, and expansion of the educational programme which can target local people as well as tourist visitors to the area.

Rusty-faced Parrot: This parrot, *Hapalopsittaca amazonina*, is little-known but sufficient evidence exists to include it in the IUCN category of endangered. For this reason the LPF, jointly with Fonds Für Bedrohte

Papageien, is funding important surveys and fact-finding investigations in the Venezuelan Andes by Provita, and NGO of the same country.

Loro Parque Fundación Income

Income to the LPF comes from a variety of sources, and more funds are always needed to ensure that we can achieve the best possible results in a world of change that threatens so much wildlife. Financial sponsorship from major corporations operating in Spain and the Canary Islands provides a considerable proportion of the annual income. To add to this are the funds derived from subscription payments by the dedicated membership of the LPF, as well as sales of a range of promotional goods distinct to the LPF. The importance of Loro Parque as a constant supporter must be highlighted. Loro Parque provides all operating facilities to the LPF *gratis*, as well as all or a percentage of income derived from some of the attractions available in the park. Furthermore, Loro Parque has donated the entire parrot collection, some 2,500 birds, to the LPF which is a further means to secure income for direct *in-situ* conservation projects. The LPF and Loro Parque carefully monitor sales of surplus birds to ensure that direct use of the funds for *in-situ* conservation remains compatible with cooperative breeding programme agreements and the welfare of all birds.

Conclusion

The LPF is moving ahead to make an effective contribution to the conservation of parrots in the wild state, and to ensure that the role of responsible aviculture in this regard can be enhanced. This advance on the part of the LPF is to always put the interests of the parrots first, and thus increase the chance that no species will disappear from planet Earth before its natural time.

For More Information: Please contact: About membership, donations, promotions –The Director, About projects, research, training, education –The Scientific Director, at Loro Parque Fundación, 38400 Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain. Tel: +34 22 374081; Fax: +34 22 375021 ➔

Book Review ...

Kingfishers and Related Birds

by Rae V. Anderson,
Sierra Madre, CA

Kingfishers and Related Birds is a truly monumental ornithological and art work due not only to its complete and highly informative scientific text and superb illustrations but also its exceptional presentation.

This three part, six volume work has presently been issued only as a limited edition of 1,000 copies for worldwide distribution. Its price is high. This situation is expected to change within the next few years, however, with the publication of a trade edition. The reformatting for the trade edition has already been largely completed by Mr. Forshaw.

The author of this sumptuous work is the world renowned ornithologist Joseph M. Forshaw. The illustrator is internationally acclaimed natural history artist William T. Cooper. Mr. Cooper is acknowledged as one of the world's leading painters of birds.

Work on this enormous project was commenced in 1978. The first volume was published in 1983 with the announced expectation of one volume per year thereafter to completion. Due to normal publication delays the project actually required 12 years, the final volumes 5 and 6 being published in

1995 (though the publication date as printed in Part III is 1994).

The author has organized the series in three parts of two volumes each, arranged by family.

**Part I
ALCEDINIDAE**

Kingfishers

Volume 1, encompasses 266 pages including 26 full color plates of the fish-eating and specialist kingfishers.

This includes 44 species and 139 subspecies.

Volume 2, is 266 pages with 26 plates of the woodland or forest kingfishers. This includes 48 species and 156 subspecies.

**Part II
TODIDAE to PHOENICULIDAE**

Todies, Motmots, Bee-eaters, Rollers
Hoopoes and Wood Hoopoes

Volume 3, is 315 pages, including 26

plates which cover the todies, motmots and bee-eaters. This consists of 42 species and 82 subspecies.

Volume 4 has 252 pages with 22 plates of the rollers, hoopoes and wood hoopoes. This includes 27 species and 61 subspecies.

**Part III
BUCEROTIDAE**

Hornbills

This is the crowning jewel of the series and includes:

Volume 5, 207 pages with 23 plates of the hornbills from Tokus to Bycanistes. It includes 24 species and 312 subspecies.

Volume 6, is 239 pages with 33 plates of the hornbills from *Anthracoceros* to *Bucorvus*. It includes 25 species and 42 subspecies.

This is a total of 1,545 pages with 156 full page, scientifically accurate, highly aesthetic color plates. It describes 210 species and 512 subspecies.

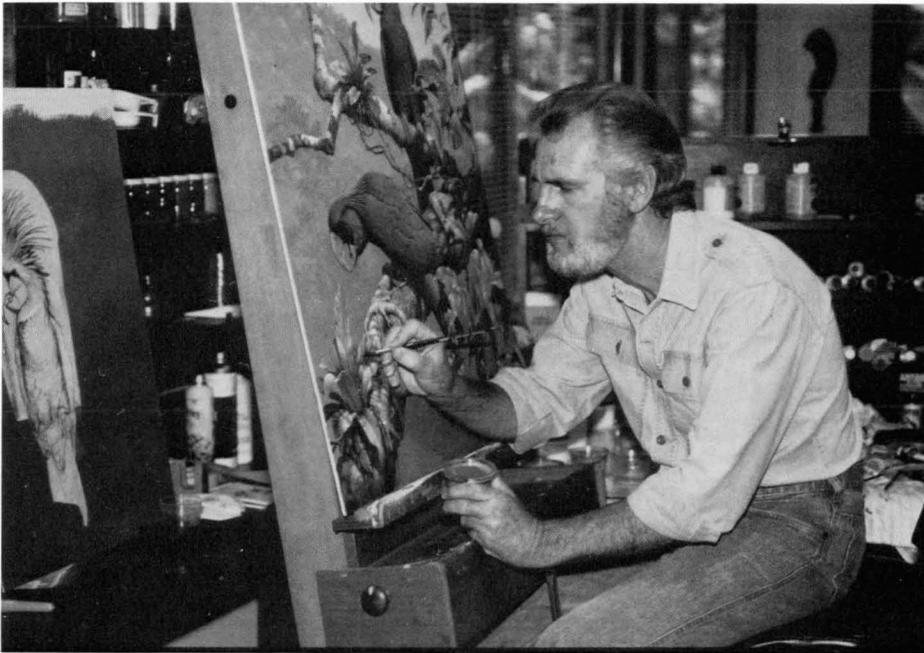
The format of this edition is Imperial Folio (20 in. X 14 in. or 506 mm X 355 mm), half English calf with German fabric. Each of the three parts, including the solander boxes in which they are protected, are color coordinated to one of the colors found in the bird groups they include. Part I is blue, Part II is green and Part III is maroon.

Volumes 1, 2 and 3 were published by Landsdowne Editions, while volumes 4, 5 and 6 were by Landsdowne Limited Editions, a division of GEO Productions Pty., Ltd.

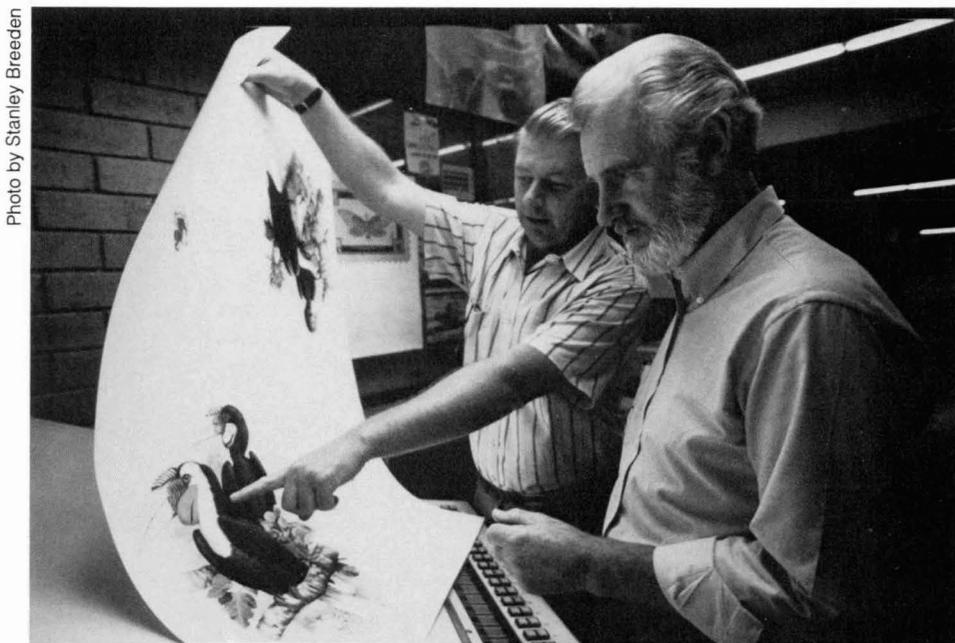
Mr Forshaw has arranged the scientifically up to date text in the same general format he used in his very popular and well known previous titles such as *Parrots of the World*, *Australian Parrots* and *Birds of Paradise and Bowerbirds*.

The text layout provides current general information applicable to the Family being covered in the particular volume, then more details by Subfamily, followed by genus and finally by detailed species description of adults and juveniles, their distribution, subspecies, habitats and status, movements, habits (general accounts of the birds as observed in the field), calls, feeding, breeding and eggs.

The text and illustrations are grouped, the text ahead and the plates following. There is a small black and white identification vignette of the illustration in the margin adjacent



Artist-illustrator William T. Cooper.

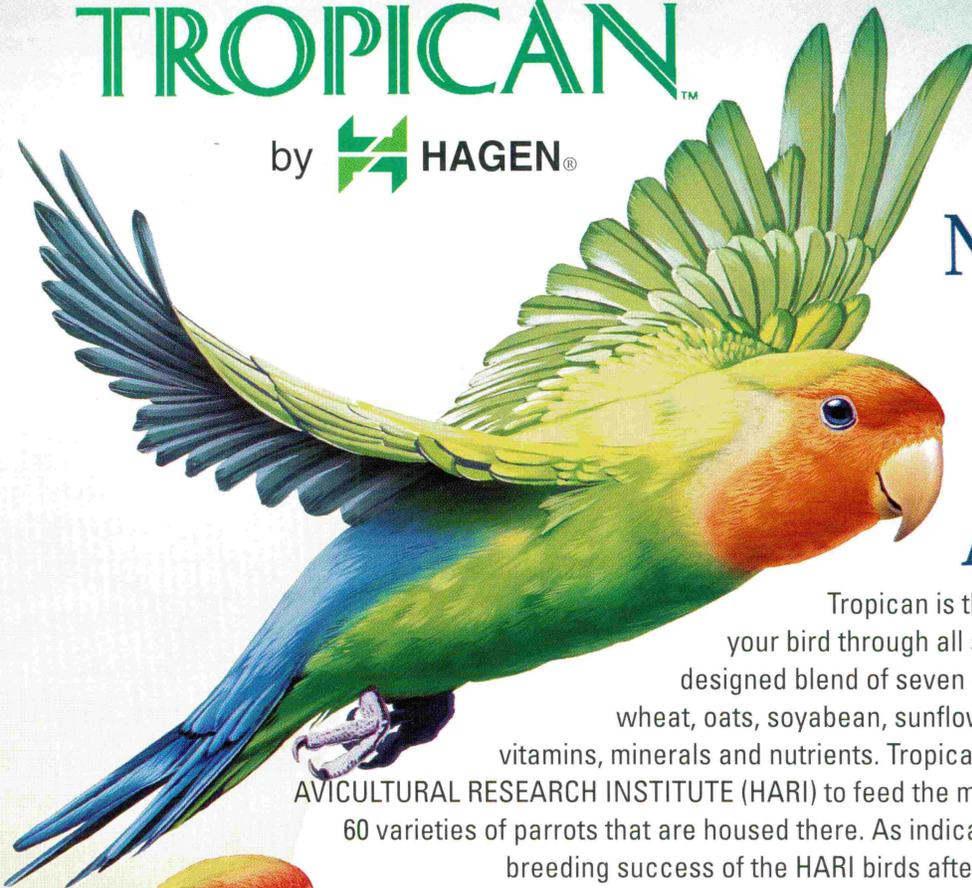


Author Joseph M. Forshaw and Artist-illustrator William T. Cooper checking printing quality at the presses.

Photo by Stanley Breeden

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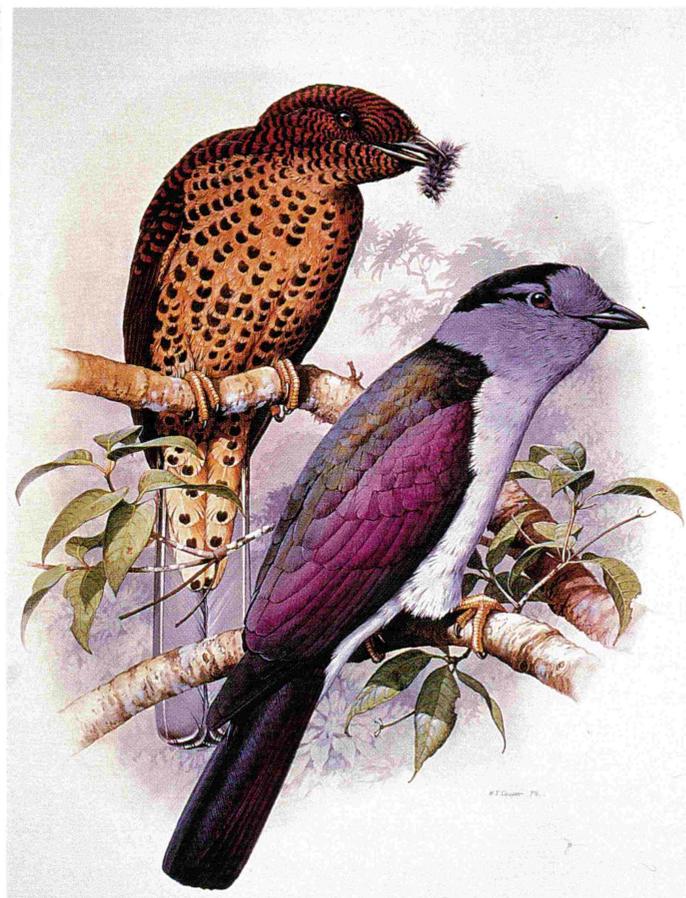


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Volume IV, Plate LXXIX, Coural (*Leptosomus discolor discolor*).



Volume I, Plate V, Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata torquata*).

to the text for each species. And, for ease of identification, a duplicate of the I.D. vignette is also placed on the reverse of the plate number sheet opposite the illustration.

In preparation of this great series, Joe Forshaw spent countless hours in the stuffy rooms of the world's natural history museums researching their collections of skins and eggs. This was necessary to amass current and complete information on the physical descriptions (colors, patterns, shapes, sizes, etc.) of every known species and subspecies in the study group. In addition, Forshaw has also done considerable field observation and research on the species in their natural habitats.

Mr. Cooper, as a result of his extensive field observations, has a great depth of technical knowledge of the birds he paints as well as having the artistic ability to render them on paper with precise scientific accuracy. Cooper's illustrations are meticulously accurate including the correct botanicals, insects, mammals, etc. (when included) for the habitats of each species depicted.

Bill Cooper insists that his paintings be highly accurate in every detail. He spends much time in the field observing his subjects in their natural habitats. This is necessary not only so the birds will be technically correct but also so that the plants, trees, leaves, flowers, fruits, berries, insects and everything depicted in the paintings is, in fact, indigenous to the habitat of the species being illustrated. Even a caterpillar shown feeding on a plant in an illustration is the correct caterpillar on the correct plant for the habitat where the subject bird species is found.

Where ever possible, Cooper has postured the birds so that key diagnostic or identification features are clearly shown. Generally, when dimorphism exists between the sexes of a species, Cooper illustrates both male and female. However, in the case of the Abyssinian Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus abyssinicus* (Plate CI) the female with her blue gular skin is not included. This bird is also depicted as standing flat-footed whereas they (as well as the Southern Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus cafer*) actually walk only on the tips of their toes (their local name literally translates to "the bird that walks on its toes"). These birds are usually seen on the ground in grass, their feet hidden from view most of the time. That could make it very easy to miss this particular feature.

All plates are in the Gouldian style vignette with each being preceded by a sheet of protective velum. Each volume also contains many very attractive and interesting line drawings (black and white pen, brush and ink) of various species engaged in typical activities. These sketches are associated with the text for the species being depicted.

The photographs of the plates that illustrate this book review provide an idea of the way the set is illustrated.

The price of this set is very high, as would be expected. It is currently available at between \$4,100 and \$5,200 plus shipping depending upon where and from whom it is purchased. Shipping charges are generally added due to the great weight of the set. The price will preclude most ornithologists and aviculturists from owning this edition. But don't despair! It is hoped that a one-volume trade edition of smaller format, similar to Parrots of the World, 2nd

or 3rd editions, will be forthcoming in the next two or three years and at a moderate price.

Kingfishers will be a valuable addition to the reference library of every ornithologist, serious international bird-watcher and aviculturist who is interested in the Kingfisher family and who has "deep pockets."

It is my expectation that due to the great investment in time, effort and expense required for such a mammoth project of such fine quality, this will be the last grandiose edition of such magnitude that this world will see. I fully expect *Kingfishers* to be declared the preeminent ornithological, if not natural history, publication of the 20th century, bar none.

This limited issue of *Kingfishers and Related Birds* recalls the glory days of the great scientific monographs of the 18th and 19th centuries, but with up-to-date information and state of the art color reproduction. *Kingfishers* (limited issue) is destined to be viewed as a modern monument to science and to natural history art.

Joe Forshaw and Bill Cooper deserve high levels of praise and commendation for their fortitude in undertaking such an enormous project and for their dedication, drive and self discipline to see it to completion (to say nothing of the praise deserved by their wives and families). Also Lansdowne Editions, Lansdowne Limited Editions and Grant Young of Wheldon Young Productions, Pty. Ltd., and GEO Productions, Pty. Ltd., are certainly deserving of commendation for their willingness to produce such a high quality and sumptuous edition, particularly since they are among the last of the world's publishers who are willing to do so.

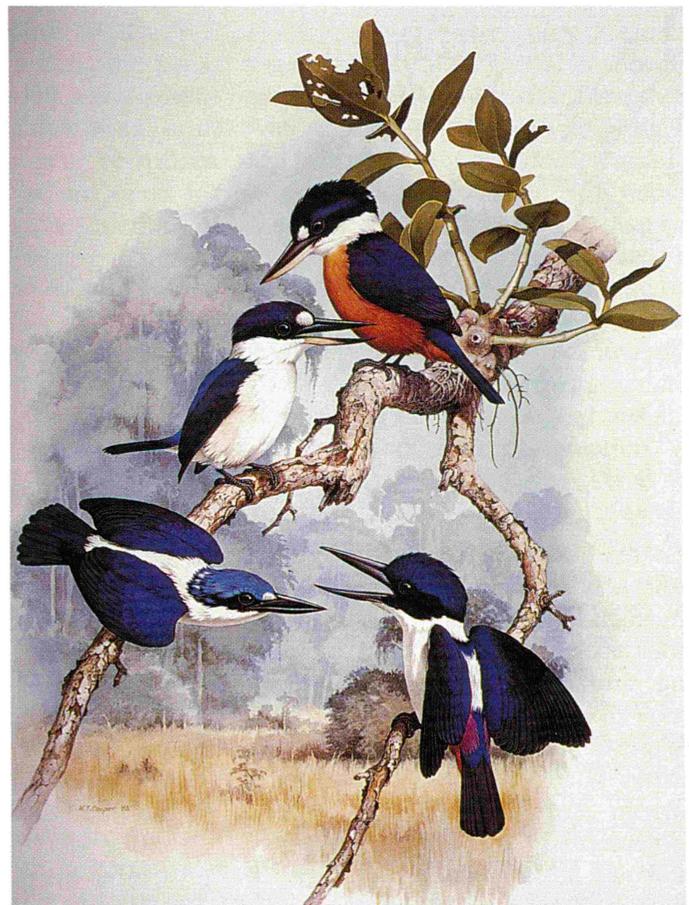
To the fortunate few who are able to obtain this complete set I say you have a treasure (although you may well experience difficulty finding a place to store it). Its sheer weight (105 pounds or 47.6 kg) will likely crush the coffee table.

Kingfishers was planned as a reference work and is a scientific publication rather than an avicultural book *per se*. It is, however, of considerable value to the serious aviculturist for purposes of identification, food and nesting requirements in their natural habitats, status in the wild, etc.

It is available in the United States through Avian Publications, 1653 Briardale Road N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55432. Phone or fax (800) 577-BIRD (2473) or (from outside the U.S.) phone or fax (621) 571-8902. It is also available from Buteo Books, Route 1, Box 242, Shipman, VA 22971, phone (800) 722-2460 or fax (804) 263-4842.

In England contact Wheldon & Wesley Ltd., Lytton Lodge, Codicote, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG4 8TE, phone (438) 820-370 or fax (438) 821-478. The title is also available from Merehurst Limited, 9 Trinity Centre, Park Farm, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 3ZB, phone (0933) 402-330 or fax (0933) 402-234.

In Australia contact Andrew Isles Bookshop, 113-115 Grenville Street, PRAHRAN, VICTORIA 3181, phone (3) 510-5750 or fax (3) 529-1256. The title is also available from GEO Productions Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 1390, CHATSWOOD, NEW SOUTH WALES 2057. Phone (2) 411-1766 or fax (2) 413-2689. 



Volume II, Plate XXXIV, Chestnut-bellied Kingfisher (*Halcyon farquhari*), Forest Kingfisher (*Halcyon macleayii macleayii*), White-mantled Kingfisher (*Halcyon albonata*) and Ultramarine Kingfisher (*Halcyon leucopygia*).



Volume III, Plate LVII, Keel-billed Motmot (*Electron carinatum*) and Broad-billed Motmots (*Electron platyrhynchum* and *E. p. pyrroloaemum*).