Over the past two months we have received many Native Birds that have been found in trouble, the good news is we have been releasing many as well, the baby Owl that was found at the Tangiteroria school just before Christmas is ready for release, I will take it back to the school so the children can see it being released.

Three Harrier Hawks have been returned and released to their area, two baby Tui’s have grown up and are ready for release, the 10 day old Kiwi chick that was caught in the very hot weather is now eating well and putting on good weight, when we receive him he was .219 grams in weight, his weight is now .267grams, we will keep him until he reaches .500grams.

One of our Native Pigeons that we have had on display for over one year suddenly started flying so it will be returned back to the area it came from.

When dropping a Bird at the Northpower Recovery Centre and you have to leave it in our holding cages please don’t put water or food in the cage with them, it may seem like the right thing to do but you could end up doing the Injured Bird more harm than good.

Any wild Bird that is in trouble and being handled will have very high stress levels, they just need rest for a while giving them time to calm down.

On weekends Robyn and I don’t go to the Centre until 4.00pm as weekends is the only time we have for catching up with jobs at our home, most time Bruce out vet will call at the Centre and put any Birds that are waiting for us inside.

Over the past two months we are still at the Centre until well after midnight working with the Birds, we offer a 24/7 service so hours can be quite long, two nights in a row when we were very busy we were still at the Centre after 2.00am so now you can understand why some days I look the an owl with big eyes.

We were asked the other day why did we get the little Auckland Green Gecko as our sign on the Building says Native Bird Recovery, well we are a drop off place for the Department of Conservation for all sorts, one must remember that any Bird or Protected animal quite often is found outside normal hours, so making sure something is safe and can be medically checked by our Vet is what we are there for.

Over Christmas I had to meet some people that had found a Kiwi which had been hit on the road way up north, I met them in Kamo at 1.30 in the morning.

Once we receive something like a Gecko the first thing we do in inform the Department, they will then decide what should happen next, having any Bird or Animal in safe hands is very important.

I will follow with more info in my next column.

Robert and Robyn Webb.