We would like to sincerely thank North Power for their support once again.

Without this type of support we would never had made it this far, it’s sad when you think that there seems to be funds for all types of projects like walking tracks all around New Zealand so we can encourage Tourists to see just how great New Zealand is.

There have been lots of articles saying how we are slowly putting pressure on our Endemic Native Birds and we could lose many over the years to come and more needs to happen to avoid this.

We receive around 1300 Birds each year, sure, not all are Endemic Natives, and some are Wild Birds which make up the balance that is required in Nature.

What I would like to know is why we have to struggle each year to keep going.

If I was to drop dead tomorrow who could take over, there would not be many that would carry on like Robyn and I have done for the past 27 years, its 17 years since we have been on holiday and I have never received any wages in all these years.

We are at the Centre every day without fail, you may say well why do it, we feel that doing our small part there will be Native Birds around for future generations to see and admire

We need to look at training a Manager to ensure the Centre is around for years to come, sounds easy but no one will work for free, it would cost the Centre about $50.000 per year to page a wage.

Many members of the Public admire what we do at the Centre for the Birds so why can’t the Government see that.

For those that are not sure an Endemic Native Bird can only be found in New Zealand, a Native Bird can be found in another Country as well as New Zealand.

Some time ago I asked a Kiwi Recovery Group for funds to build Pens at the Centre to hold our Kiwi chicks in after we hatch them, their reply was no we don’t fund that sort of thing, strange when they were called Kiwi Recovery, they had big funds to help Kiwi, I guess Administration used up a lots of their funds.

We bring in large numbers of Tourists each year to Northland even in the winter months, but no, we can’t tap into this either.

So, to those that are helping us you all deserve a big pat on the back.

The next column will be about the Birds and not me complaining.

Robert and Robyn Webb.