Red crowned parakeet/kākāriki

Kākāriki, which means green in Maori, is the name given to our native parakeets. There are three kinds, the red crowned and yellow fronted which are found mainly on offshore islands, and the orange fronted which is found only in Canterbury.

Red-crowned kākāriki are green with a crimson red forehead and a circle of red to the side of their eyes. They have silver grey beaks, a small blue stripe on their wings and mid-grey legs.

Kākāriki feed on berries, seeds and insects. In flight they make a rapid chatter that sounds like 'ki-ki-ki-ki'.

They nest in holes in trees, and sometimes in crevices in rocks and cliffs and even in burrows in the ground.



