| The Kereru     | ., also knowi | r as the Ne  | w Zealand    | Pigeon,  |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
|                |               |              |              |          |
| is a large, co | lourful bird  | that is four | id througho  | ut New   |
| Zealand. Th    | rey are easil | y recognisa  | ble by their | irides=  |
| cent green a   | nd purple fo  | eathers, an  | d their dis  | tinctive |
| wobbling flig  | ht. Kereru j  | play an imp  | portant role | in dis-  |
| persing seeds  | from native   | trees, helpi | ng to maint  | ain the  |
| health and     | diversity of  | New Zeala    | nd's forests | . They   |
| are one of th  | e only birds  | in the worl  | d that can   | eat the  |

| large fruit of the taraire tree, which is too big for most  |
|---|
| other birds to swallow. Kereru are also known to be         |
| very friendly, and will often let people get quite close to |
| them without flying away. Unfortunately, their num          |
| bers have been declining in some parts of the country,      |
| so it is important to help protect them by preserving       |
| their habitats and controlling introduced predators.        |