

## Pigeon Mail



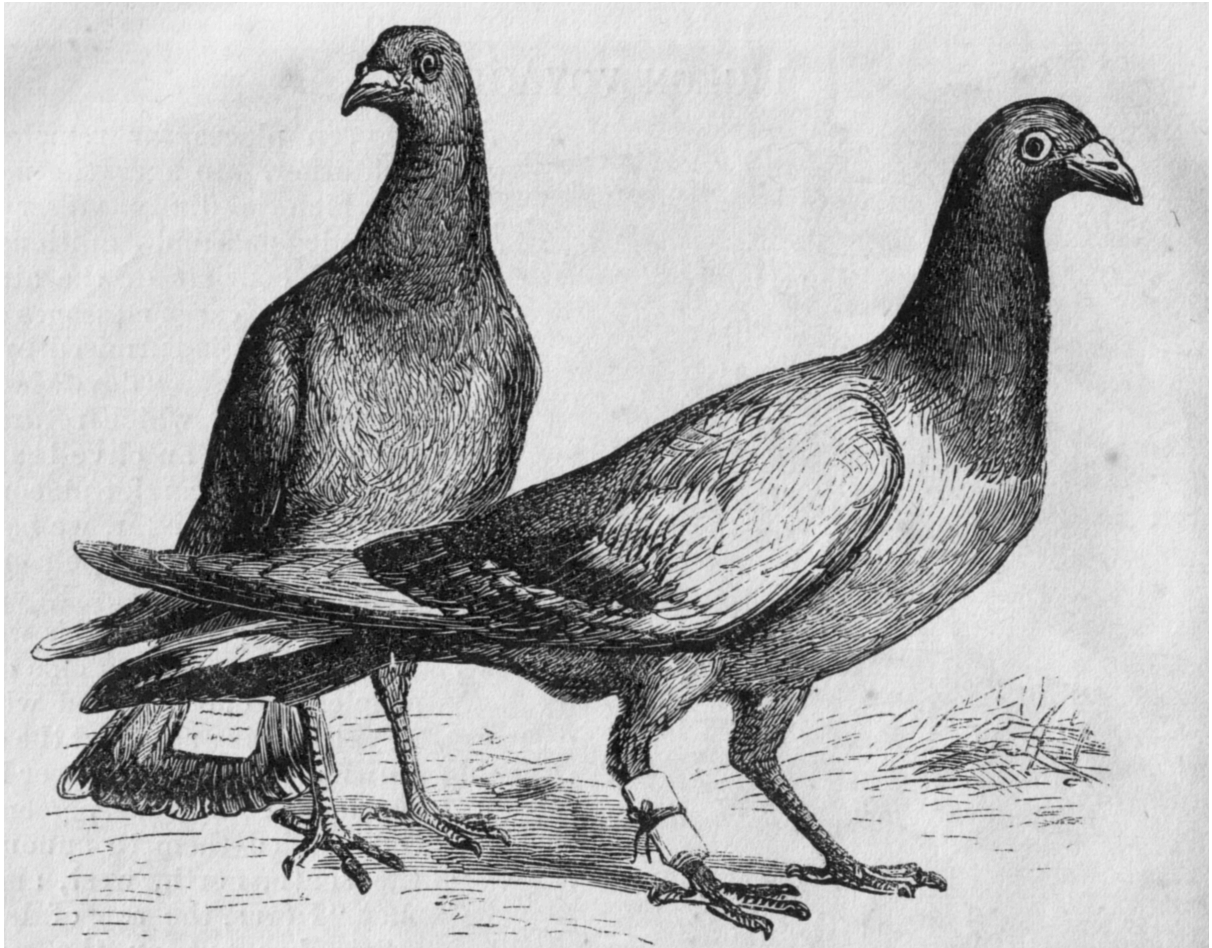
When you want to send a message to someone, all you have to do is send a quick txt or an email! How easy. But did you know that pigeons used to deliver the mail?

For thousands of years, before the internet and modern technology, communication was much slower. Some people would write letters and then get them hand delivered by a runner. But some people preferred to get homing pigeons to deliver their letters by long distance. In the early 20th century, people used pigeons to carry messages, the news and small packets.

Pigeons were really good at delivering the mail because they had a good sense of direction. This means they were good at finding their way around. People were able to train the pigeons to follow a path home.

Pigeons carried the mail in a small role which was in a glass or metal tube. Once the message was written strapped onto the pigeon, the pigeon was released to fly

home. It could skip the traffic and people could not read the mail before it got to it's address!



Why was <i>communication</i> slower hundreds of years ago?	
Name 2 ways that people used to send mail?	
When did people use pigeon mail?	

What was the pigeon's job?	
Why were pigeons good at the job?	
Why was pigeon mail better than maori runners?	
What is one bad thing about pigeon mail?	