

YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN TRUST NEWS

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The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust, A charity working to save our penguins forever for everyone!

Unexplained chick losses on Stewart Island

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust has just completed the first year of a planned five-year study to measure the effects of cat predation on yellow-eyed penguins on Stewart Island's north-eastern beaches. But instead of cat predation, what we found was as yet unexplained high chick death rate.

Because of an apparent decrease in yellow-eyed penguin numbers on Stewart Island, the Trust, assisted by the Department of Conservation (DOC), was testing whether the loss might be attributed to predation by feral cats. During the 2003/2004 breeding season all nests along the Mt Anglem coastline were monitored intensely.

Early in the breeding season we discovered that chicks were dying at an alarming rate. Of 42 chicks hatched only 11 were still alive by mid-February. This is a survival rate of just 26%. At some beaches every chick died.

There were no signs that these deaths were due to cat predation, instead starvation appeared to be the most likely cause of death. This possibility was tested by comparing the weights of yellow-eyed penguin chicks from the offshore islands of Bench, Tommy and Whenua Hou (Codfish) to those in the study area / main Island.

Although the weights of chicks on the offshore islands were on average lower than those on the Otago Peninsula, the weights of the surviving chicks in the research area were comparable.

Observers monitoring the penguin chicks noted large pieces of regurgitated fish beside some of the dead chicks. Could this be a repeat of the mystery disease or biotoxin that killed off a significant proportion of the breeding population on the Otago Peninsula in 1989-90 or a widespread shortage of food?

At the moment we have lots of unanswered questions, although we're hoping there may be some partial answers when analyses of samples and autopsies are completed.

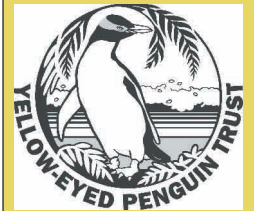
These results highlight the importance of regular, ongoing monitoring of our penguins. "If the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust had not been on Stewart Island this summer, we would never have known this event had happened. The Department looks forward to working with them to determine what is actually happening with these birds and if there is anything we can do about it" says Brent Beaven, DOC Programme Manager – Biodiversity, Stewart Island.

The Trust had already committed in principle to a five-year programme on Stewart Island, subject to finance being available. Although we feel it is important that our monitoring continues, we have not as yet been able to find funding. This year's work was largely funded by two, unexpected one-off grants. One was from the Community Trust of Southland, and the other from Contact Energy, as a result of Otago people using 10% less electricity to ensure adequate power supplies during early winter 2003. If you would like to consider helping fund this research, any donations marked Stewart Island Project will be earmarked for next season's work.

SEE ALSO FERAL CAT STUDY ON PAGE 5



DENIS PATERSON



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Stewart Island	1, 5
Research.....	1, 2
2003-04 Season	2
Biodiversity funding	4
Mainland	6,7
Volunteers.....	8, 12
Nursery	8, 9
Otapahi	10
Kids Page	11
News in Brief	12
Thanks	12
Volunteering	12

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Parasitology of the yellow-eyed penguin (*Megadyptes antipodes*)

Simon P McDonald

A thesis submitted for the degree of Master of Science at the University of Otago, Dunedin, May 2003.

Abstract

The goal of this study was to determine whether parasites represent a threat to the continued existence of the yellow-eyed penguin, *Megadyptes antipodes*. The population of this rare penguin has suffered from two severe mass-mortalities in the past decade, resulting in the deaths of a significant proportion of breeding adults, and consequently their chicks. One of the suspected agents of these mortalities is avian malaria (*Plasmodium* spp.), which is a major cause of death in captive penguin populations.

In this study, I examined blood samples

Contracaecum sp. were also recovered in the faecal sample of one of these birds. There was no evidence to suggest that these parasites harm their hosts in a measurable manner.

Twenty adult yellow-eyed penguins were dissected in order to determine what helminth parasites were present in these birds. One species of nematode and one species of acanthocephalan were recovered. These were respectively identified as *Contracaecum eudyptes* and *Corynosoma hanna*. The majority of the penguins dissected were infected with one or both of these parasites. Again, there was no evidence that these parasites result in

significant harm to their hosts, only one bird showing signs of inflammation as a result of a heavy nematode infection.

Ectoparasites were rarely recovered from these birds. Lice (*Austrogonioides concii*) were recovered from

one live bird in the course of the study. No mites or fleas were detected on any penguin examined in this study.

The parasites of the yellow-eyed penguin recovered in this study did not appear to inflict measurable harm on their hosts, but their potential impact cannot be ignored, especially when the host is under stress.

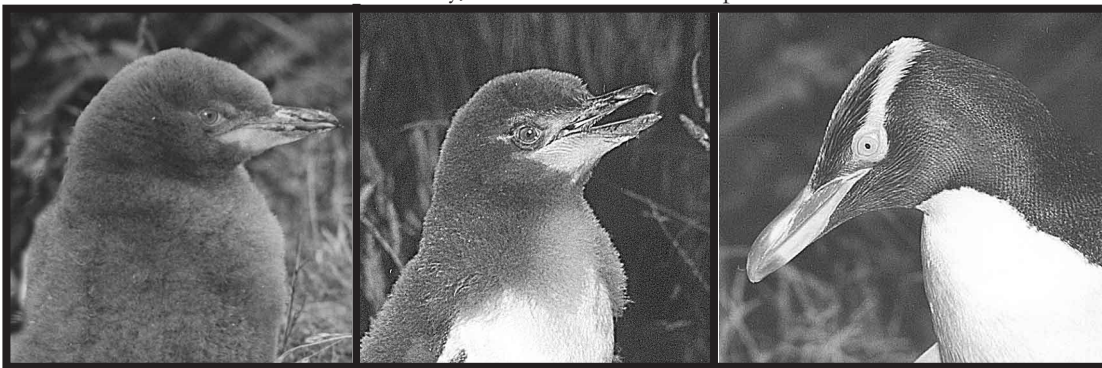
drawn from penguins on Boulder Beach, on the Otago Peninsula. Blood smears were examined for the presence of haematozoa, and ELISAs were performed to detect antibodies to *Plasmodium* spp. There was no evidence of blood parasites on any examined smears, but 169 of the 171 samples tested were sero-positive for anti-*Plasmodium* antibodies according to the ELISA technique used in this study.

PCR analysis indicated that avian malaria was present in the yellow-eyed penguin population, but was unable to identify the agent responsible beyond the genus. Initial investigation suggests a species of *Plasmodium* other than *P. relictum* is involved.

All birds sampled were in good health, suggesting that even if these birds have been exposed to avian malaria, it does not cause significant harm. Avian malaria may be sustained in the penguin population at a sub-clinical level, resulting in birds which carry the disease, but do not show any symptoms under normal conditions.

In addition to blood samples, faecal samples were taken from live birds at the same time. These indicated that twelve of the sixty-five birds examined were infected with the coccidian *Eimeria* sp. Nematode eggs of

DENIS PATERSON



RESEARCH

Avian Malaria study concluded

John Darby

The loss of almost 52% of all breeding yellow-eyed penguins on the mainland during the 1989-90 breeding season resulted in a multitude of explanations from a wide range of sources. Despite extensive post mortem work, John Gill of Invermay, (Gill and Darby 1993) were unable to identify any specific cause of this mass mortality other than to note that all birds examined were ostensibly in good health and had good body weight. Blood samples were sent to a number of overseas workers, but all returned a negative finding.

T.K. Graczyk an American parasitologist, who later received blood samples suggested,

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

2003/04 Yellow-eyed penguin season

This season was very much one of being in a holding pattern after several years of either declining nest numbers (30% decline in 02/03) or mediocre productivity and chick weights. In North Otago (8 monitored sites) and on the Otago Peninsula (12 monitored sites), nest numbers were virtually the same as the previous season with the Catlins numbers (6 monitored sites) being 13 % down.

However on the positive front there were a number of indications this season that things were starting to improve. 218 chick weights from the Catlins and half of the Peninsula sites at the traditional banding/weighing time in early February had a healthy mean of 5.49 kg. This compares very favourably with the mean weight at this time over the previous 13 seasons of 5.19 kg, indicating that the food supply was generally good in these areas.

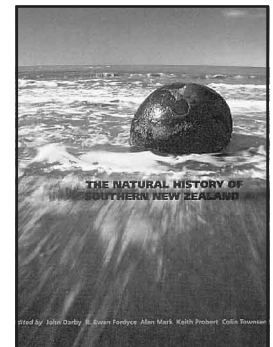


Good numbers of juveniles were seen in several areas on the Peninsula and in North Otago reflecting the good fledging weights for chicks in these areas the previous season. At a number of sites, adult – juvenile pairs were noted keeping company and building nest bowls without breeding. This augers well for improved recruitment in the next couple of seasons.

A good cooperative effort by the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust, the Dunedin City Council, the Otago Peninsula Trust, DOC and 2 landowners, Perry Reid and Howard McGruther, has seen a comprehensive predator trapping programme on the outer end of the Peninsula. This has not only protected 3 key YEP sites but has also acted as a buffer to reduce the numbers of predators reaching the Royal albatross colony at Taiaroa Head as well as protecting a number of other seabird species.

My thanks to all the people involved in penguin monitoring for supplying data over the season. In particular Rosalie Goldsworthy, Kevin Pearce, Hiltrun Ratz, Chris Lalas, Mike Hazel, Cheryl Pullar and Fergus Sutherland.

Dean Nelson
Biodiversity Officer
Department of Conservation
Coastal Otago



A book worth mentioning

The Natural History of Southern New Zealand (Otago University Press, in association with Otago Museum).

A work of five editors (John Darby, R Ewan Fordyce, Alan Mark, Keith Probert and Colin Townsend).

(Graczyk et al 1995) that the major factor responsible for these deaths was avian malaria, a relatively common condition in captive penguins and responsible for more deaths in captive populations than any other factor. Both Gill and Darby expressed considerable reservation as to this diagnosis.

In 1998, Simon McDonald, a student of Zoology at Otago University undertook a study of the parasites of yellow-eyed penguins, (supported by the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust) including examining the matter of the prevalence of avian malaria together with identifying the vector. The accepted technique is complex, but is based on measuring the level of antibodies in the blood of penguins, which in turn provides an indicator of the severity

of their exposure to the disease. Additional techniques included examining hundreds of blood smears for evidence of blood parasites. Of the 171 penguins examined there was no evidence of blood parasites. However 169 of the birds tested sero- positive for anti-Plasmodium antibodies, a confusing finding.

All the birds examined were in good health and though the tests suggested that the birds carried the disease, (the vector is a mosquito) McDonald concluded that it was highly unlikely that avian malaria had been responsible for the mortality of 1989-90. His additional studies on the parasitology of these birds revealed a remarkably low level of internal and external parasites, suggesting that rarely do these birds succumb to parasitic infestations.



Dave McFarlane and David Blair finish putting up a "no dogs allowed" sign and fencing for Waikawa Heads, Catlins.

Biodiversity funding is already producing results.

It was only November last year that we were presented with our first cheque from the Biodiversity Fund on private land by the Minister of Conservation, the Honorable Chris Carter, and six months on we are already achieving results. Our new Ranger, Dave McFarlane, on appointment immediately launched himself into his job and

last year with the dry summer months and holiday season rapidly approaching, he and David Blair (our Projects Officer) alongside many dedicated volunteers set about preparing the newly planted 2003 seedlings for the drier season. The main thrust of their work was to clear the rank grass away from the plants by spraying and therefore reducing competition for available water. This work has already paid dividends with a high survival rate despite a very dry summer. Now the summer is over Dave Mc is now busying himself with controlling weed re-growth and preparing the plants for winter.

With the employment of Dave Mc, the Trust is able to spend much more time on the habitats and we are now doing some much needed maintenance of facilities including the development of a new walk at Okia Reserve that draws attention to the work of the Trust and the amazing natural features of the reserve. Dave Mc has also been a great asset with his constant presence on the habitats. He ensures that visitors are compliant and he advocates for the Trust, further raising awareness of our work.

Thanks to the Biodiversity advice and condition money, both Daves have also been involved in an Otago Peninsula trapping programme - a cooperative effort between the Department of Conservation, the Dunedin

City Council and the Trust. Taskforce Green and Dave Mc have been involved in the regular checking of the traps and David Blair was involved in the design of the operation. The objective of the proposed trapping was to protect Dunedin's albatross, titi, little blue penguin and yellow-eyed penguin offspring from predators during a very vulnerable stage of their life. 160 trap sites were monitored over six locations and resulted in 18 stoats being caught as well as some non target species (hedgehogs and rabbits).

It is too early to isolate the effect the intensive programme trapping may be having on the Otago Peninsula populations of yellow-eyed penguin but chick monitoring records from our own sites at Otapahi and Okia indicate that chick mortality appears to be lower than previous years.

It is the first time since his employment with the Trust that David Blair has been able to work fully in the field of biodiversity advice. One project he has been involved in as an advocate for yellow-eyed penguin's habitat protection in the Curio Bay area, Southland. This redevelopment is being undertaken by the South Catlins Development and Environmental Charitable Trust. The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust is assisting with specialist planning support, alongside DOC and other parties to ensure that penguin habitat is enhanced at Curio Bay.

David Blair has also been updating our landowners' information pack written to help landowners provide greater protection for yellow-eyed penguins on their land. The new 'pack' will be in a handbook format similar to the *Field Guide to Mustelid Trapping* produced by the Trust in 2002. Production of this booklet and several others currently in preparation are supported through Biodiversity funding.

Also funded are predator trapping workshops on best practice methods for trapping predators and protecting wildlife. David Blair has been involved in a predator trapping workshop on Banks Peninsula and there are plans to run similar workshops in Otago, Southland and Charleston (West Coast) during the 2004 year. David is keen to help other communities learn about trapping predators, so if you are interested, please

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

More work on Stewart Island

Feral cat study - not a total loss

Despite the fact that the first year of our study into the effect of feral cats on hoiho populations on Stewart Island did not show high rates of predation, we still managed to obtain some useful data.

Grant Harper's research in an inland forested area on Stewart Island in 2002 found that the average weight for male cats was 3.4kg and for females was 2.6kg. Sandy King found almost identical results in the coastal yellow-eyed penguin habitat during our study this season: males 3.4kg and females 2.5kg.

However, the two studies differed in what food the cats appeared to be eating. Rats made up 60% of the diet of cats in the inland area, with birds making up 19% and invertebrates 15%. On the coast, rats and possums only accounted for about 30% of the diet, with beetles making up another 10%. Interestingly 27% of the stomachs were empty. Thankfully this season there is no evidence of yellow-eyed penguins in cats diet.

This year there was no cat predation seen of chicks. Our previous experience in Otago suggests that predation events may be sporadic and sometimes only occur every 2-3 years. The long-term

monitoring that we have instigated will, over time, tell us to what level feral cats are affecting yellow-eyed penguin breeding success.

Smokey Beach



Sandy King and her dog at Long Harry

contact the Trust Office.

The best thing of all is David Blair is out there talking to people, helping them protect their land and offering solutions. And its not just talk, right now the Trust is busy purchasing fence posts, organizing volunteers and drawing up work plans to protect land where yellow-eyed penguins nest and create penguin habitat -all as a result of this ongoing consultation.

We know there's still along way to go and there is still a lot more to do but with the 2 Daves planning and working away diligently at their tasks we are pleased with our start. If things carry on the way they have started then we will easily meet our goals.....we'll keep you posted.

The Trust would like to thank...

Our sincere thanks to the following for funding the Stewart Island yellow-eyed penguin monitoring project:

Contact Energy

Ltd for their donation from the 2003 "Community Conservation Challenge". Part of this donation has been used to fund the project in 2003/04 and the balance will be used for the continuation of this project.



The **Community Trust of Southland** has also given a grant towards this work.



Who we are...

The current Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust

Board comprises of: (year elected)

Alan Wright (1988)
Euan Kennedy (founding trustee, 1987)
Eric Shelton (2003)
Lala Frazer (founding trustee, 1987)
Margaret Murrell (1994)
Mark Stewart (2003)
Mervyn Cranefield, Treasurer (1991)
Pat Mark (1994)
Paul Donohoe (2003)
Peter Simkins, Spokesperson (1995)
Ruth Littlewood (1995)

Trust Staff 2004

Executive Officer
Sue Murray
Project Officer
David Blair
Ranger
David McFarlane
Nursery Co-managers
Anita Pillai &
Margaret Suman
Research Assistant,
Stewart Island
Sandy King (October
2003 – March 2004)

Help our Hoiho and Win

May 17 to 6 August 2004

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust and Mainland -
a unique relationship

For 15 years now Mainland Products Limited has been supporting the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust in their efforts to help save the Hoiho.

Mainland have donated almost \$1,000,000 already to the Trust, money that has gone towards developing the penguins' habitat, predator control, supporting research, advocacy and other critical initiatives.

Mainland's latest consumer promotion reinforces our desire to help highlight the plight of the Yellow-eyed penguin to New Zealanders.

As a special part of this project and to help reach the \$1 million mark for sponsorship, for every entry in the 'Help our Hoiho' promotion, Mainland will donate an extra \$1 to the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust.*

*To a maximum of \$10,000, over and above current sponsorship of up to \$50,000 per year.



Mainland, proud supporter

We're getting everyone NZ-wide
and over 30,000 school kids behind our Hoiho!!!

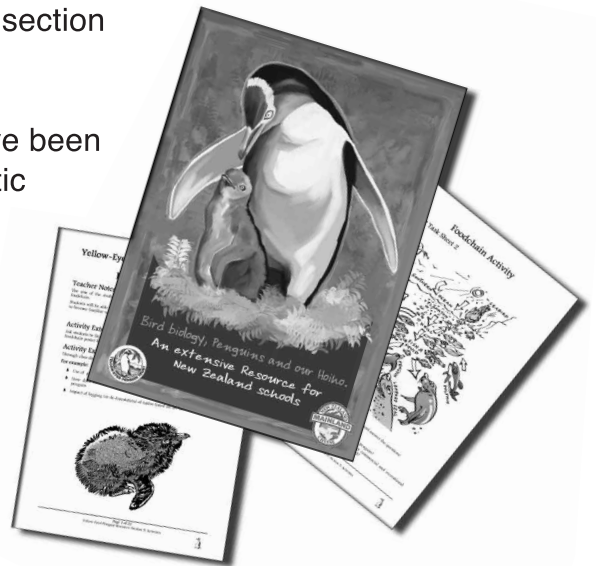
5 families and 1 class will WIN
a trip to see our Hoiho in Dunedin.



- Families collect 2 barcodes from promotional packs and send them to Mainland to be in to win 1 of 5 trips to see our Hoiho as part of a Dunedin Peninsula Attractions package.
- School classes collect 20 'Help our Hoiho' labels from Mainland Cheese Block & Slice packs to go in the draw to win a class field-trip to see our Hoiho and work with the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust for the day! There are also 5 consolation prizes of \$500 worth of reference books for the schools and loads of spot prizes of pencil cases, Hoiho books, rulers and bookmarks.

PLUS we're helping our schools...

- Mainland have sponsored the creation of an **80 page** Resource book for schools on Bird Biology, Penguins and a special section on the Hoiho.
- All Primary and Intermediate schools in New Zealand have been invited to receive a **FREE** copy of the Resource, a fantastic educational poster and to participate in the 'Help our Hoiho' promotion.
- We believe the educational push into schools is critical to the long term well-being of the Hoiho and the work of the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust. Through this effort it's hoped that New Zealand children will develop a lifelong affinity toward our Hoiho.



If you are a teacher and you have not received information through your school on the 'Help our Hoiho' Project please email helpourhoiho@mainland.co.nz for more information.

of the Hoiho since 1989





Queen's Service Medal for Public Service to one of the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust's founding Trustees - January 2004

Lala Frazer was honoured for her contribution to conservation and the Otago Community over many years.

She played an important role in establishing the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust in the 1980's and is a founding member of Save The Otago Peninsula, which focuses on habitat restoration work.

She has acted as the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust Habitat Committee chairwoman for some years, organising many of the habitat planting and other community based activities.

Congratulations Lala, we are so proud of you!

Lala has also been involved with the Broad Bay Community Centre, a local food co-operative, book club, and 150th anniversary photo exhibitions of the Otago Settlement and the Millennium.

Valuing volunteers

Time is a very precious commodity in today's world so when someone donates it to a charitable organization like the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust, you just can't thank them enough. Organisations like ours simply couldn't exist without these dedicated individuals and this includes everyone from Trust Board members to people who help in

Nursery has survived, and now for 2004 we have funding. Grants have been received to cover one year's salary and plant production costs, plus some capital developments.

Every contribution is special and remarkable. Out at the Nursery and on the habitats there are currently a core of highly trained regular volunteers who turn up week after week and sometimes day after day to do often very physical and tedious work. So why do they come? We like to think that it's a love of the outdoors, plants, penguins and doing something worthwhile. They are a motivated and inspirational bunch, they bring lunch, stories and new ways of looking at things. So thank you volunteers - you know who you are. Frankly we (and the penguins) couldn't survive without you!

AND we are always on the lookout for new volunteers to train and join our happy crew. It can be hard work but you get to go to some interesting places. If you are interested in assisting with any aspects of our work, please contact the Trust Office.



A few of the many volunteers we couldn't do without!

the office, on the website, with promotions, out at the Nursery or on the habitat. If you added up all these people our staff would be huge.

And then there's the cost saving. Last year when the Trust Nursery Manager retired and the Trust was adjusting to a reduction in sponsorship, the economics of continued plant production at our Nursery was questioned. It was apparent that under the financial constraints at that time it was uneconomical to keep the Nursery operating. That was the cold reality but it ignored the educational and advocacy opportunities that the Nursery also provides. Realising what was about to be lost, 2 individuals volunteered to run the Nursery until the Trust found funding - this voluntary contribution amounted to in excess of \$30,000 savings to the Trust. Sixteen months later, thanks to these volunteers, the

The Trust would like to thank...



WWF-New Zealand
Habitat Protection Fund-
March 2004 Grant for:
(1) plant production cost for one year; and (2) upgrade and development of various aspects

of the Nursery to allow for greater plant production and better public access.

We sincerely thank WWF-New Zealand and The Tindall Foundation for this support. www.wwf.org.nz

Vodafone New Zealand Foundation

World of Difference winners-
October 2003 - funding of
Nursery Manager's salary
and personal expenses for
one year.

www.vodafone.co.nz



What's going on at the plant nursery?

It's been a very good year at the Nursery and long may it continue!

It started with the generous sponsorship of the Nursery Manager's salary by Vodafone New Zealand Foundation for one year (2004) through their World of Difference programme (See Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust News November 2003). This is now an international programme and the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust has the honour to be the first conservation organization supported in New Zealand. Two ex-trustees, Margaret Suman and Anita Pillai, are the recipients. It was they who decided to apply to the Vodafone New Zealand Foundation

and although notification came in September 2003, funding commenced in February 2004.

Since winning the award the intention of the Trust has been to further develop the educational and advocacy assets of the Nursery for the community. To do this we needed to be able to provide assistance, physical space and sometimes person power to enable groups to use our Nursery. At present our ability to do this is limited by the facilities we are currently have.

The present Nursery caters for the Trust needs for plant production and was expertly set up by the past Nursery Manager for that purpose. Trust plant production still continues to be the prime focus but with more staff we have time to help others and share what we do. Community activities at the Nursery in 2003 highlighted the need for better facilities.

While we have received funding for salaries to follow these dreams there was no money to make improvements to the Nursery. Thankfully the Habitat Protection Fund managed by WWF - New Zealand came to the rescue! Not only have they provided funding for our plant production costs for one year, but they have also provided funding to develop the Nursery for community use. Some of the renovations planned are new potting up stations, more trolleys to move plants, electricity to the glasshouse to run heating pads, a new shade house, new gravel standing out areas, more potting mix bins and more benches.



We consider ourselves pretty lucky! But the race is on to get the area developed quickly so that groups can use it as soon as possible. We know there is a demand for this type of facility simply by the groups who already use the Nursery in its existing form. Among these are the University of Otago, The Pikao Recovery Group, Department of Conservation Corps, Task Force Green and local schools.

In the meantime due to the increased ability of the Trust to plant and maintain more trees through our newly appointed Trust Ranger we are able to realise our goal of coastal forest and more penguin habitat in a much shorter time. To do this plant production at the Nursery has increased this year and as we move into the second phase of revegetation at some sites we have also diversified the species grown. A team of regular volunteers who have helped us achieve all this and much more, supports all of the work.

When the redevelopment is completed there will be an opportunity to view the site and we hope you will come and see us at the Nursery in Company Bay.



Task Force Green checks in at the Nursery.

Cleaning kowhai seeds





OTAPAHİ

Otapahi is one of the success stories of the Trust. When we purchased the land in 1997 there were only seven nests, easy to find according to the Department of Conservation (DOC) Officer who checked them each year, because there was “one to each hebe or flax clump” left in the paddocks. This last season there were 21 nests and the previous year there were 22 – a threefold increase.

It is a stunningly beautiful piece of the Otago Peninsula coastline. Otapahi comprises three separate beaches, each very different in character. The first a sheltered cove with high sides, the second with a large dune area and the third smaller one has a view of an offshore island the top of which is literally covered with

sea bird nests, an activity which has left the rocky outcrop looking white and bare of any shrubby vegetation.

A large part of the area fenced in 1998 is actually Crown Land, including Queen’s Chain, that DOC agreed to us including and managing

within the habitat.

Because of the different microclimates and subsoils, and because we quickly learnt from bitter experience that the exposed headlands between the beaches are better suited to tussocks than forest shrubs and trees, the planting plan for the area is similarly varied. With assistance from a number of community groups assisted by two seasons of our own Task Force Green workers, the planting has however been faster than envisaged originally and two of the beaches have slopes now covered with fast growing trees that will offer more penguin nest cover in the future and are already attracting a greater range of birds and insects.

Once the grazing was removed, what looked initially like bare grass paddocks with some

tussocks encroaching, have in fact erupted in toetoe, flax, pittosporum, ngaio and poroporo, the first two offering new instant nesting sites.

The third beach originally had a large area of pikau trampled by the grazing cattle who kept the surface disturbed and exposed the sand below. This area was the subject of several research projects. However since the grazing has ceased, the grass cover has encroached and the area stabilised, and it too will in future have forest cover.

The dunes on the second beach are covered with marram and have become well used as haul out areas for the sea lions which are now returning to the Otago Peninsula, having been virtually wiped out last century during the whaling and sealing days. The Yellow-eyed penguins gingerly make their way through to the new nest sites on the side of this dune area or in some cases are even taking new routes to established nests in order to avoid them.

So why have the penguins increased in numbers so dramatically in this area? One suggestion is their isolation. The beaches’ only feasible access is across neighbouring farmland. In general, the only disturbance to the penguins is when DOC monitors during the breeding season four times a year. Planting which involves groups of people is done in winter during daylight hours when the penguins are out at sea. In summer when plants may need watering and releasing, the staff ensure they keep well away from the nest sites.

Given that the very lack of disturbance may be a factor in breeding success, the policy of the Trust is to restrict any activity in this area that involves movement within the nest sites and/or handling of the birds. If you want to view the site you will need to join one of the Trust Planting Days held on site or there is a four wheel drive tourist venture which stops on the outside of the fence each evening. For more detail about either of these contact the Trust office.



Otapahi committee member and YEPT trustee, Margaret Murrell and YEPT Ranger, Dave McFarlane on top of the world at Otapahi.



KIDS PAGE

May 2004

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust. A charity working to save our penguins forever for everyone!

Once again we have many children and schools to thank for their generous donations to the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust.

N.Ross and E.Wiffen
C/- Room 8
The Terrace School
Marlin Street
Alexandra

8 March 2004

Dear Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust,
During the course of class discussions my friend Emma Wiffen and I (Nicole Ross) became interested in the ongoing welfare of the Yellow eyed Penguin. We talked about what we could do to help and decided to make posters and a donation box which we placed at the local vets. Donations have been slow in coming from the source so we decided to go door knocking around our local neighbourhood. We have collected \$86.60 which is enclosed and we hope it will go some way towards helping the yellow Eyed Penguins future.

Yours truly
Nicole Ross and Emma Wiffen.



Lichfield School of Putaruru once again did a fund raiser this year for the penguins.

Thank you Nicole and Emma for your kind donation.

Visit the Hoiho!

Did you know.....

Your class could WIN a trip to see the Hoiho at home in Dunedin, and work with the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust for the day!!



Start collecting these stickers from Mainland Cheese Block and Slice packs and stick them on to your classroom poster.

Collect 20 and your class is in to win!!

Do you have this FANTASTIC poster in your classroom??



No!??!!!

Ask your teacher how to get one and start collecting those stickers!!



Mainland, proud supporter of the Hoiho since 1989

Hey Kids...

Here are a few websites that might be fun

All you wanted to know about Antarctica -
www.coolantarctica.com

Fun games -
www.doge.biz/pingu
www.penguin.net.nz/games

Classroom activities for beginning readers -
www.LittleExplorers.com



We received a lovely drawing by Priscila Robson of Whangarei

Many thanks to...

Our regular supporters:

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Our Volunteers:

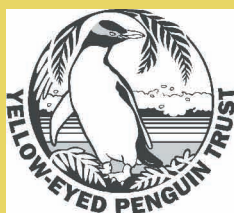
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Community Trust of Southland
Computer Depot (2000) Ltd
Hesletine Trust
Penguin Fund of Japan
Shrimpton Animal Trust
Vodafone New Zealand
Foundation
WWF - NZ (The Tindall
Foundation)

Our Stewart Island project:

Dave's Place, Stewart Island
Telecom
Stewart Island Marine
DOC Field Centre, Oban
Brent Beaven
Phred Dobbins
Sandy King
Kakapo Recovery Team
Bruce McKinlay
Dean Nelson
Grant Harper
Anne Condon
Emma Cournane
Esther Sibbald
Donna Woodley
Daniel Meier Behrmann
Malcolm Rutherford
Lyndon Perriman
Poma Palmer
Graham Thurlow



Volunteer opportunities:

Public Planting Days



Would you like to volunteer to plant trees for the Trust this winter?

Put the following days in your diary now!

Sunday 30th May

Sunday 13th June

Sunday 8th August

In the week prior to each date, ring the Trust Office (03 479 0011) for details.

Southland Branch of Forest and Bird

also require assistance at their Te Rere Reserve, South Catlins on Saturday 10th July and 14th August. Phone Brian Rance on 03 2131161, or email rances@es.co.nz

With the YEPT Ranger

Dave McFarlane is interested in volunteer help during the week with his general Ranger duties on the Otago Peninsula and at Tavora, near Palmerston.

These volunteer trips will usually take place on a Wednesday, and last all day, from around 8:30am to 5pm. If you are interested in helping, email or ring the YEPT and your name will be added to the Ranger's email volunteer list.

Auditor

The Trust is indebted to a variety of people for the honorary audits carried out on the Trust's accounts annually, for many years.

The Trust is currently seeking an honorary auditor to conduct this work for 2003/04, and any person interested in doing this should contact the Trust Office.

Accounting assistance

The Trust is looking for a volunteer Trustee with financial management / accounting experience to assist.

With the recent funding successes, we require additional experience to assist in the financial planning processes.

If you are that person, please contact the Trust Office.

News in Brief

Yellow-eyed penguin Annual Symposium

The Yellow-eyed penguin Consultative Group supported by the Trust and the Department of Conservation is holding its Annual Symposium on Saturday 31st July 2004 at the Botanic Garden Centre, Dunedin.

During the morning various presentations will be made on penguin happenings over the previous year. The afternoon session will be based on the topic of "A Strategic View of the Future".

For further information and registrations, contact either the Trust Office or Bruce McKinlay, Secretary of the Yellow-eyed penguin Consultative Group (bmckinlay@doc.govt.nz).

Don't forget to visit our website...

www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz

Tax rebates

Donations over \$5 have in the past been available for a tax rebate.

Now your subscriptions to the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust are too! [They will be considered as donations in terms of Section KC 5(4) of the Income Tax Act 1994] Please keep sending them in!

To order your Mainland Chart call: 0800 243 373



DENIS PATERSON

Please remember us in your Will

Managing and/or purchasing penguin breeding habitat and controlling predators such as stoats and ferrets are some of our ongoing tasks.

Saving the yellow-eyed penguin is a long-term task.

Bequests will help secure its survival.

Please remember us in your Will.