



Yellow-eyed Penguin News

STEWART ISLAND UPDATE

by David Blair

Stage 2 nest count completed

How many yellow-eyed penguins on Rakiura/Stewart Island?

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust has completed the first comprehensive baseline survey of yellow-eyed penguin nest numbers on Rakiura/Stewart Island. The second stage of the nest search census, was again directed by the Trust's Project Officer David Blair and included a number of experienced volunteers to whom the Trust is extremely grateful.

This nest count was conducted during November/December 2000, and followed a beach count in October. This was to give us a comparison between methods of counting yellow-eyed penguin numbers, and to ascertain whether there was a significant difference. During both counts, only three juveniles were sighted, giving rise to some concern to the future growth of these populations.

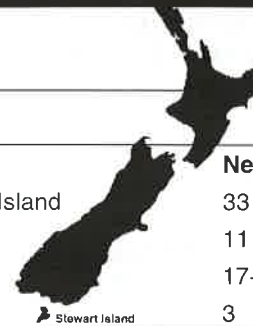
This work has added to the knowledge of yellow-eyed penguin numbers on Stewart Island, and will be helpful when the following questions have to be answered:

- Are juvenile yellow-eyed penguins returning to natal (birth) sites in sufficient numbers to sustain the population?
- As a corollary to the above; what is the effect of the feral cat and of the native weka as a predator of the yellow-eyed penguin?
- And the difficult question: Is the seemingly "low" population of yellow-eyed penguins on Stewart Island a result

Nest Count results:

Breeding Locations 1999

Breeding Locations 1999	Nests Found
North East Coast of Stewart Island	33
Bravo Group	11
Bench Island	17+ (not complete)
Weka Island	3



Breeding Locations 2000

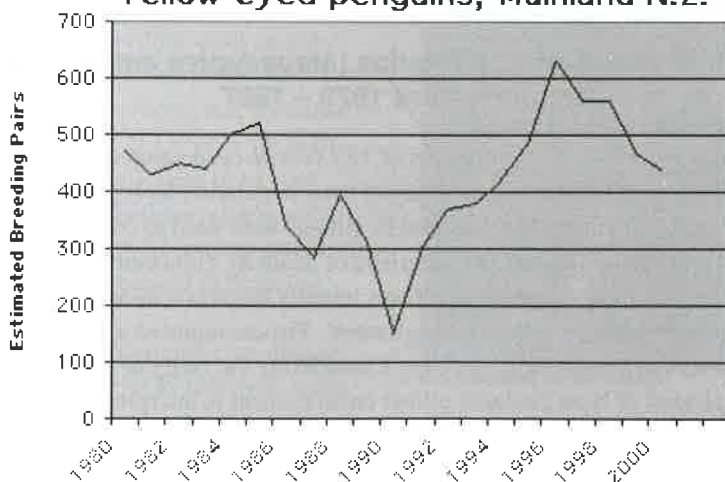
The Neck, Paterson Inlet.	14
Port Adventure Area	17
Big Kuri Bay	1
Port Pegasus	23
West Coast of S.I. Doughboy Bay -Ruggedy	0

of the available marine food resource, predation or disease?

Both the Trust and the Department of Conservation look forward to future researchers finding the answer to some of the unknowns involving the yellow-eyed penguin on Stewart Island, and hope that the nest search report will be a catalyst for future progress in this direction.

A future project for the Trust may be that of monitoring the island of Whenua Hou (Codfish Island, off the north-west coast of Stewart Island), where predators such as cats or wekas are not present. Greg Lind, Manager Southern Islands, Department of Conservation suggested that a nest count on this island may be helpful in ascertaining the effect of predators on other Stewart Island breeding areas.

Yellow-eyed penguins, Mainland N.Z.



Mans best friend... or is it foe?



There has been a lot in the news recently about dogs attacking penguins. We thought you might like to read our various articles about "Mans best friend" or is it "foe"? Cheryl Pullar and Tess page 4 Oamaru penguin disaster .. page 4 Euan Kennedy and Ella page 5 Scott Theobald with Tui, Heidi and Mick page 5

Hiltrun Ratz graduated in 1991 with a BSc Honours (Zoology) from the University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, and was then accepted as a PhD student by Dr Henrik Moller at the Zoology Dept, Otago University. Since 1994 she has worked as a tour guide for Penguin Place. She is currently working on a paper about the breeding success at two penguin breeding areas between 1990 and 1997 in collaboration with John Darby and Kerri-Anne Edge. Below are two abstracts from her earlier work.

Effects of habitat and introduced mammalian predators on the breeding success of yellow-eyed penguins *Megadyptes antipodes*, South Island, New Zealand
Hiltrun Ratz and Brian Murphy

The endemic yellow-eyed penguin *Megadyptes antipodes* is threatened by habitat loss and introduced predators on mainland New Zealand. Nine colonies in the Catlins (south-east coast of South Island) were studied to measure breeding success, penguin abundance, and predator abundance in three successive breeding seasons (1991/92 to 1993/94). Nest numbers increased in all nine colonies in the three years despite predation (probably by stoats *Mustela erminea*) being the most important cause of breeding failure. Larger colonies with higher breeding success were in small gullies with limited shrubs and bushes rather than in the most intact mature forest colonies hitherto assumed to be optimal habitat for the birds. Penguin nests were concentrated near the forest edge, but predators were not, so the predation risk was not elevated near the forest edge. Fragmentation of the original forest habitat had no observable adverse effect on breeding success. Stoats dominated the predator guild, while ferrets *M. furo* and feral cats *Felis catus* were rare. Trapping to kill predators early in the season had no marked effect on subsequent predation losses, but trapping intervention when a predation outbreak occurred curtailed further chick deaths. A simple population model predicts that yellow-eyed penguin populations will grow, provided the average total chicks loss is less than 43% per season or a least 0.85 chick per nest fledges each year. This requires predation losses to be less than 34%.

Hiltrun Ratz and Brian Murphy, 1999. *Pacific Conservation Biology* Vol. 5:16-27. Surrey Beatty & Sons, Sydney.

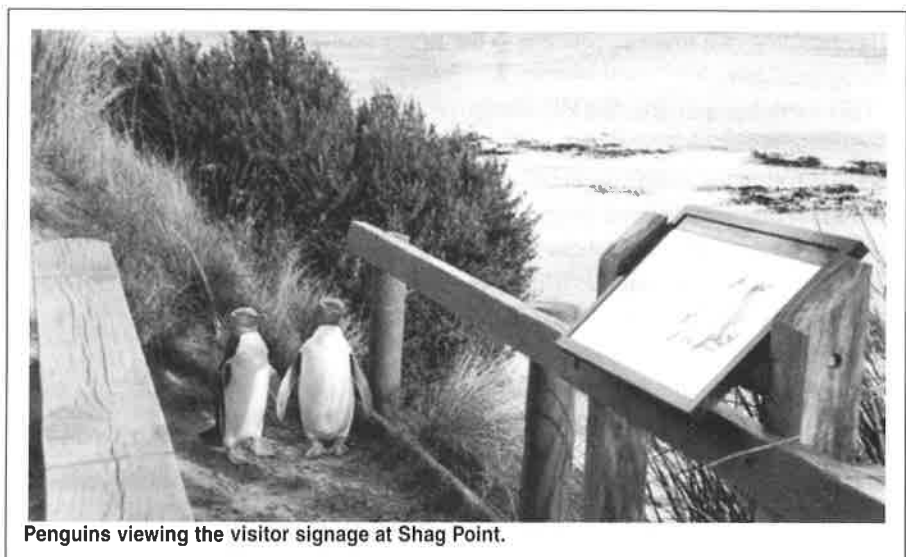
WHO IS WATCHING WHOM?

Checks for impacts of tourists on Yellow-eyed penguins

H. Ratz & C. Thompson

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Conservation Reserve at Penguin Place, Dunedin, New Zealand is an ecotourism venture where visitors view breeding yellow-eyed penguins *Megadyptes antipodes* at close range from hides and covered trenches. Yellow-eyed penguins are a timid and secretive species that could be regarded as unsuitable for observation at close range. The increase of yellow-eyed penguin nests was greater since 1984/85 in the colony visited continuously by tourists compared to the adjacent control colony with no public access. No difference was detected in the breeding success between the colony visited by tourists and the colony without visits by tourists. The impact of the presence of tour groups on the feeding behaviour of chicks was investigated at two-chick nests at the guard-stage during the summers of 1994/95 and 1995/96. The number of food-transfers was counted in five-minute intervals for 30 minutes. No difference was found in the patterns of feeding sequences. However, power analysis suggested that the difference would have to have been fairly large to be detected. This provides an indication that no apparent differences in patterns of feeding between the two colonies existed, but a larger sample size is required to reach a more definite conclusion.

Ratz, H. & Thompson, C. 1999. *Who is watching whom?* Checks for impacts of tourists on Yellow-eyed Penguin *Megadyptes antipodes*. *Marine Ornithology* 27: 205-210.



Penguins viewing the visitor signage at Shag Point.

JOY STIECKE

Bycatch of yellow-eyed penguins (*Megadyptes antipodes*) in gillnets in New Zealand waters 1979 – 1997

John T. Darby and Stephen M. Dawson

Between 1979 and 1997, autopsies of 185 yellow-eyed penguins were conducted as part of a long-term study of their population biology. Twenty-one penguins known to have been drowned in gillnets were used to compile a set of physical features and injuries characteristic of death by gillnet entanglement. A further 21 birds whose cause of death was initially unknown showed features consistent with death by gillnet entanglement. Fishers reported a further 30 gillnet entanglements to government agencies. Considering the rarity of this species on the South Island of New Zealand, gillnet entanglement is interpreted to be a significant threat to South Island populations.

Elsevier Science Ltd, *Biological Conservation* 93 (2000) 327 - 332.

A breeding season with ups and downs

To study the unique reproductive strategy of the yellow-eyed penguin we spent our first field season at Boulder Beach on the Otago Peninsula (see the November 2000 newsletter for more details). It has certainly been a

We immediately notified DoC of our findings and we decided to suspend our work on the penguins for this season. Shortly before Christmas monitoring of yellow-eyed penguin nests at other places on the Otago Peninsula revealed similar mysterious deaths of chicks. Subsequent analysis circumstantially showed that a disease might be involved in the deaths.

At the end of January we returned to Boulder Beach to band all chicks that survived. All 75 chicks were in very healthy condition and some are likely to return to Boulder Beach in four years to raise their own chicks.

Additionally, we found the first evidence ever that blue penguins and sooty shearwaters attempted to breed in the Mid-Section of Boulder Beach.

Unfortunately, a ferret killed at least 5 adult sooty shearwaters in mid November. The blue penguin pair successfully raised one chick.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Trust for financial support; Mike Hazel, Sylviane Neumann and Dean Nelson for their help and company in the field.

Melanie and Alvin are the two PhD students currently sponsored by the Trust. They are based at the University of Otago's Zoology Department.

What is biodiversity?

*It is short for Biological Diversity. Biological meaning "living things" and diversity meaning how things are different from one another. Therefore, bio-diversity is the total of all different species on earth, the genes they contain, how they work and live together, and depend on each other for survival.**



MIKE HAZEL

Finding yellow-eyed penguin nests is sometimes a difficult task.

very interesting yellow-eyed penguin breeding season with ups and downs for us as well as for the penguins.

Starting on the 14th of September we spent three weeks intensively searching and locating nest sites within the Boulder Beach complex (Double Bay, Mid-Section; A1 and Highcliff). With the help of Mike Hazel, Dean Nelson (DoC) and some keen members of the YEP Trust we found a total of 86 occupied nests (15 in Double Bay, 32 in Mid-Section, 17 in A1, and 22 in Highcliff). A 13-year old female laid the first egg of the season on the 20 September. During egg-laying and incubation we were busy with measuring egg-sizes, recording adult attendance and collecting data on brood patch formation, egg positions, and hormonal levels. By the end of October we both became increasingly keen to see our first yellow-eyed penguin chicks and finally on the 7th of November chicks of two nests had succeeded in breaking their egg shells.

Sadly, in mid November we discovered that several chicks had died, some obviously of predation, but for others we couldn't explain the cause of death.

Seaweek 2001

All over the country, coastal cities participated in celebration of the biodiversity of our coastal and marine environments. Events included marine mammal seminars, whale rescue demonstrations, beach clean up, as well as visits to our wonderful reserves and conservation areas. In order to take care of our environment we

need to develop ways to enhance as well as preserve this area. The Seaweek promotion helps everyone to become more aware of our coastal environment and its inhabitants.

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust participated by celebrating the diversity of the Okia Reserve (Otago Peninsula) to help raise public awareness on the re-vegetation in yellow-eyed penguin areas. David Blair, the Trusts Projects Officer, guided a group through the Okia Reserve to show them possible nesting sites, penguin tracks, and ways in which to hide so that the penguins could not see them. The group also planted approximately 50 pingao plants on the dunes and even got a glimpse of a penguin.



DENIS PATERSON

A safe home for this chick

*"Seaweek 2001, What is Seaweek?". *Spirits of the Sea*. Autumn 2001, Rotorua, New Zealand. Spirits.sea@clear.net.nz

Mans best friend...or is it foe?

Cheryl Pullar and her dog Tess

DAVID BLAIR



Cheryl is currently employed as the Field Centre Supervisor, Department of Conservation, Owaka (South Otago). She has been training her Border collie pup, Tess, since 1997 with the hope that Tess will help locate yellow-eyed penguin nests in her local area. We asked Cheryl some questions about her dog, and the training involved.

YEPT: Why did you want a dog to help locate penguin nests?

C: Dogs have an acute sense of smell and good eyesight and I thought this would be a useful tool.

YEPT: Why did you decide on a Border collie?

C: I required the dog to be intelligent, non-retrieving, non-barking, good working and of medium build. Border collies are known to be the most intelligent dog (my bias included in that statement). Tess is from "eye dog" lineage, able to hold sheep by staring at them, moving in a swift quiet manner and good at stalking, and generally does not

bark. So really she was perfectly suited to all my requirements - and cute too!

YEPT: What sort of training have you and Tess done?

C: Firstly, Tess had to have obedience training (sit, stay, heel, wear a muzzle, ignore distractions) before being tested and gaining the Interim training certificate. This allowed me to take her to work with yellow-eyed penguins and Mohua (yellow heads), so she could be trained to locate target species. Stage two is the evaluation and full certification, which is revaluated every 3 years. YEP nest location is very sporadic (generally only 1 week in Oct, Dec & Feb) therefore her training has been slower.

YEPT: How did you teach her to find yellow-eyed penguins?

C: Introducing her to YEP poo, letting her roll in it, snuffle it and generally get excited by it, then associating poo with penguins - not too difficult at a nest. I also let her find nests that I knew were there, and rewarded her

for it. We also played hunt the penguin on the DOC grounds with a stuffed penguin.

YEPT: How do you know when she's found one?

C: Knowing her behaviour as the handler. Tess will stop moving when she gets close to a penguin. She is actually quite scared of YEPs having been squawked at a few times and is a timid dog by nature. She stares at the YEP like she would at a sheep (if she was a sheep dog), then stops moving, either standing still or lying on her belly. She usually stops wagging her tail and drop her ears, until I tell her she's good and what to do next.

YEPT: How useful is it?

C: Very. Tess is a better height than me for finding penguins. She can see under bushes and walk through stuff that is really quite difficult for people. At the nest site I find her useful for keeping the adult birds from running away if there is a back or side escape hole I tell her to sit there.

Dogs can kill

Oamaru, on the East Coast of New Zealand's South Island, has become well known for its population of blue penguins which, since 1992, have been the major tourism attraction for the town. Over the years, penguin numbers have increased fourfold, thanks to the enthusiastic local conservationists (both private and government) and good food years.

Oamaru's blue penguins are living in an urban environment and consequently face some risks not normally associated with penguins, for example being runover by cars and trains. However, like their rural cousins, predation from introduced mammals is a problem, although mustelids and cats are not the biggest threat - dogs are.

Before blue penguins became well known in Oamaru, dogs killed up to 30% of the penguin population per year at some sites, leading to several measures being implemented to reduce the slaughter. Fences were constructed at two sites, with the dual purpose of restricting the entry of dogs and stopping penguins



Dead blue penguins - a result from just one night of dogs on the

entering dangerous areas. The Waitaki District Council changed its dog control bylaws and stepped up enforcement efforts. These efforts, combined with the raising of public awareness about the impact of dogs on penguins, have been responsible in vastly reducing the number of penguins killed by dogs.

The killing of 57 penguins by dogs in January came as a huge shock to Oamaru. Despite intense national news coverage and pleas to dog owners to make sure their animals were kept under control, a further 14 penguins were killed in the same area just a week

JON HUNTER



Euan Kennedy and his faithful labrador pup, Ella.

Euan Kennedy, Founding trustee/probationary dog handler

As a young boy, Euan pursued yellow-eyed penguins in the dank flax of Sandfly Bay. Those early encounters have today given rise to an abiding affection for both the penguins and their wild Otago Peninsula habitats.

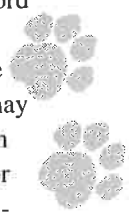
Euan has been working with endangered species throughout New Zealand for 23 years. When he returned to work in Dunedin in 1982, he soon became aware of John Darby's yellow-eyed penguin research. He and John authored the first recovery strategy for the species. It was soon apparent however, that the penguins needed more help than Euan's employers (NZ Wildlife Service, and then Department of Conservation) could give. In 1987, he became one of the Trust's founders. The Trust, he recalls, was a wonderful opportunity to convert public affection for penguins into publicly sponsored conservation projects.

In 1990, Euan moved with his family to Christchurch and to eight years of work with black robins in the Chatham Islands. Despite the distance from Dunedin he remained a Trustee and continues to participate in the Trust's work. But he'd rather be where the action is. "What's missing here in Canterbury," he laments, "is yellow-

eyed penguins as dedicated to breeding as their Otago cousins are!"

Recently, Euan instigated the Canterbury Penguin Management and Research Group, an informal coalition of local penguin-minders, researchers and conservation agencies. The group is modelled on Dunedin's Yellow-eyed Penguin Consultative Group, another of Euan's innovations. The Canterbury Group acts as a voice for local penguin issues and as an exchange point for penguin information. Its principal focus is the white-flipped penguin, a subspecies of the blue penguin and unique to Canterbury.

Euan's closest confidant in penguin matters is a black labrador pup called Ella. If both handler and pup pass the stringent tests required by DOC's dog handling procedures, Ella will be trained to find penguins and rare oceanic petrels. For now though, Ella is just six months old, full of bungy cord energy, and still learning the social graces of a well-mannered dog. The signs are good though. "Her nose may be nearly as big as mine," says Euan laughing, "but it's already a superior follower of scents. Size is not everything!"



later. Fortunately, a member of the public saw the midnight carnage and contacted the authorities. Waitaki District Council dog control officers were quick to respond, eventually shooting the two dogs seen attacking penguins.

The Waitaki District Council followed up this action with a prosecution under the Dog Control Act 1996, under which it is an offence to be the owner of a dog that killed protected wildlife. The Council was successful with their prosecution, with 75 hours community service and \$300 court costs being imposed.

Oamaru Department of Conservation officer, Dave Houston, was disappointed with the penalty imposed, but happy that a prosecution was obtained. Dave says that the penguin population in Oamaru is large and that the loss of the 71 penguins would not have a long-term effect. The biggest blow came from the fact that most of the birds killed were part of a study population used to monitor the impact of tourism on penguins at the nearby tourist site. Despite the catastrophe, Dave said that the one positive outcome was the huge amount of publicity given nation-wide to the impact of dogs on wildlife.

Scott Theobald & his conservation dogs

The first team of fully trained dogs to detect the presence of predators - mustelids, cats and rodents has been developed by Conservation Ranger Scott Theobald. Please note the dogs are used to indicate sign - not for the actual control of animals. Mustelids (stoats, weasels and ferrets), cats and rodents are a big threat to our native wildlife. The Team provides one more method to help locate such predators in sensitive areas.

Mick is a fox terrier and has been specially trained and is the first fully qualified Conservation Dog to be used in locating the presence of cats and mustelids. Mick is able to indicate the



Scott Theobald with Tui, Heidi and Mick

actual presence of these predators and also their sign (scats, scent marking/urination). Tui (Mick's daughter) has

continued on page 6



Thomas Pachlatko

Thomas is a practising biologist in Switzerland, working for an organisation involved in information on wildlife. Namely, an international reintroduction programme of the Bearded vulture *Gypaetus barbatus* (formerly known as lammergeier) in the Alps. Check out his homepage at <http://www.wild.unizh.ch/bg>.

In the past he has participated as a volunteer in many of New Zealand's foremost species projects – Codfish Island weka programme, Chatham Island black robins and Chatham petrels. He was also around when the Trust was first established, assisting with the first databases.

So why does he continue to support the Trust?

Thomas answers, "Each time I was in New Zealand I had a wonderful time. I visited country three times in 1980/81, 1988 and 1991/92. As biologist, I am interested in all aspects of nature and visiting New Zealand I found a great part of it. I had the great opportunity to participate in different projects thanks to Euan Kennedy [Trustee], who I met first twenty years ago on my first trip to your country. One of the projects, Euan was involved in was dealing with yellow-eyed penguins and so I learnt about the project and the problems of saving this bird. From the beginning I was impressed with the beautiful bird

and knowing people who care for it, it was and is a pleasure for me to help them. Now it's great for me to be connected to a part of the great nature of New Zealand with your Trust. *The Yellow-eyed Penguin News* gives me the opportunity to get actual information on the projects, and I always read it from beginning to end.

I still love New Zealand and all its beautiful nature and people and I hope I

will have the possibility to come to your country again one time. And then I sure will visit all my friends, the Trust and the Penguins."

[We look forward to seeing Thomas, and his partner Corina, once again.]

International snippets - JANUARY 2001

Rio's sunbathers find surf, sand and penguins

Rio's picture postcard beaches are receiving some unexpected visitors this summer as, along with oiled-up sunbathers and volleyball players, dozens of half-starved penguins are stumbling ashore. Due to apparent climatic changes, hundreds of Magellanic penguins failed to make it home to the chilly waters of Valdez Peninsula in Patagonia by the time summer arrived in the southern hemisphere, a senior biologist said.

Military Blunder Wipes out Albatrosses and Penguins,

Conservation groups across the world are aghast that a globally-important South Atlantic seabird site, containing hundreds of pairs of breeding albatrosses and penguins, has been almost completely destroyed by a blaze started accidentally

by British troops attempting to remove ordnance from a remote island in the Falklands.

Almost 90% of the 'tusac' grass habitat containing seabird colonies was destroyed. This site contained an estimated 1750 pairs of black-browed albatrosses and 900 pairs of rockhopper penguins, as well as sea lions.

Jim Stevenson of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, says "...This incident raises questions about the validity of this military exercise..."

For more information on these International events, visit Dave Houston's website at www.penguin.net.nz

SCOTT THEOBALD continued from page 5

been trained solely to track mustelids, and Heidi (a border collie/fox terrier cross) on rodents.

High standards have been met, with the dogs tested and detection abilities quantified and certification protocols developed. The Team has been in steady demand in helping conservation projects nationwide.

The dogs, combined with Scott Theobald's knowledge of trapping, predators, dog handling/training skills and outdoor skills provide an important package that has been used throughout New Zealand in managed conservation areas. The team is the only national tool of this kind used to protect New Zealand's unique biodiversity. This team has worked on many offshore islands - as far afield as the sub-Antarctic Campbell Island, and has also been used to survey Mainland island sites, protected species breeding area/enclosures etc for these predators.

Mainland Report

By Nina Bolger, Product Manager - Cheese & Butter

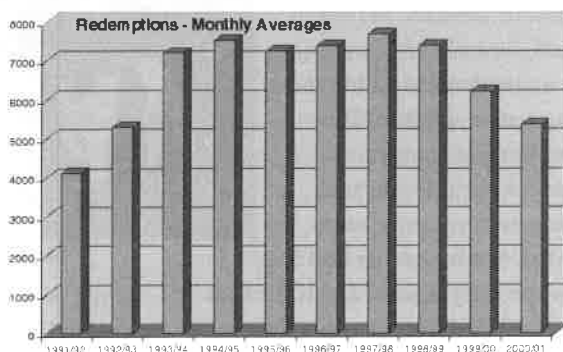
Mainland Products Ltd are happy to have sponsored the Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust for the past 11 years. During that time we have seen lots of interest from consumers.

We still get lots of requests for wall charts from consumers, the food service trade, and schools who have all been loyal supporters.

Redemptions from the



back labels of both butter and our natural cheese products have been very steady over the past 9 years.



Oamaru Penguin Symposium

The 3rd biennial Oamaru Penguin Symposium will be centred upon the blue penguin, but will also present work on yellow-eyed penguins. Work will be presented by zoologists from the Universities of Waikato, Lincoln and Otago; the Department of Conservation; Murdoch University, Western Australia; and Phillip Island, Victoria, as well as independent biologists. Topics to be covered will include breeding and feeding biology, predator control, tourism interactions and blue penguin taxonomy.

Date: 21st – 22nd June 2001

Place: Moeraki Room,

Quality Hotel Brydone, Oamaru

For more information and/or a programme:

<http://www.penguin.net.nz/events>
or contact the convenor:

A G Hocken, 'East Riding',
Whiterocks Road, R D 6-D,
Oamaru
Email: agh@es.co.nz

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 4th August, 2001** 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 Research, "What do we have and What do we need?" A number of completed and current research projects will be discussed, and gaps in our knowledge of conservation work with the yellow-eyed penguin will be identified.

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

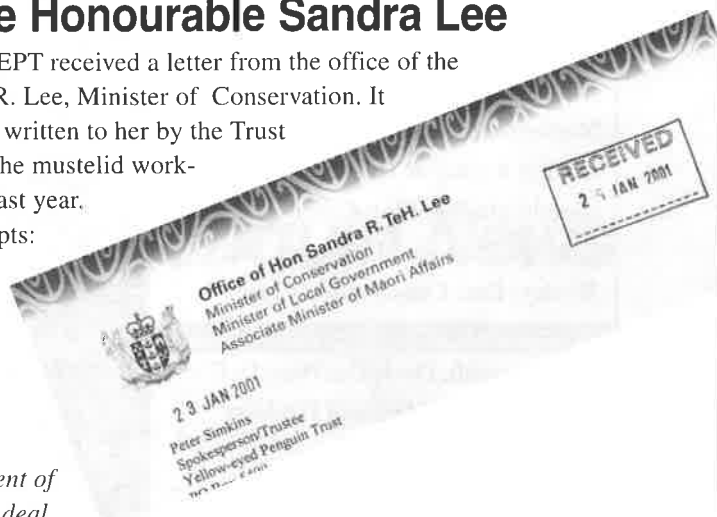
Letter from the Honourable Sandra Lee

Back in January the YEPT received a letter from the office of the Honourable Sandra R. Lee, Minister of Conservation. It was in response to a letter written to her by the Trust as well as a follow up on the mustelid workshop which she attended last year.

Following are a few excerpts:

"...If we are to address biodiversity protection in its full sense, it is even more important that the Trust remain a strong advocate for yellow-eyed penguins, as the Department of Conservation will have to deal

with a much wider range of species issues than it has in the past. I reiterate that the YEPT is an excellent model of community support for conservation, carried out in an organised, responsible manner, and I am full of admiration for the way it has gone about its business..."



De-oiling penguins in South Africa

Here are some interesting statistics taken during last years disastrous oil spill off the coast of Cape Town, when an oil tanker ruptured and sank only a few miles from the primary breeding site of African penguins.

The rescue and rehabilitation effort was co-ordinated by the South African National Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds and the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

- 1,300 tons of fuel oil spread through the area
- 55,000 African penguins were affected by the spill
- 1,000+ volunteers a day assisted with the feeding, cleaning and supervising swims for the penguins

- 21,000 adult penguins and 6,000 chicks were removed from both Robben and Dassen Islands by boat and plane and transported to facilities for cleaning and care
- 34,000 were rescued and relocated to clean water some distance away
- 6 tons of sardines per day were donated for the feeding of the penguins

P S Did you know that the cleaner used to de-oil the penguins was invented by a South African high school student for a science project – the formula is a secret, but the main ingredient is known to be common cooking oil!



Penguin population in decline

The African penguin *Spheniscus demersus* (found in Namibia and South Africa) is listed as vulnerable with the ICUN Red List of Threatened Species. The population has declined by 30,000 adults in the past 15 years (averaging 1.5% decline per year), and has suffered significant losses from recent oiling events.

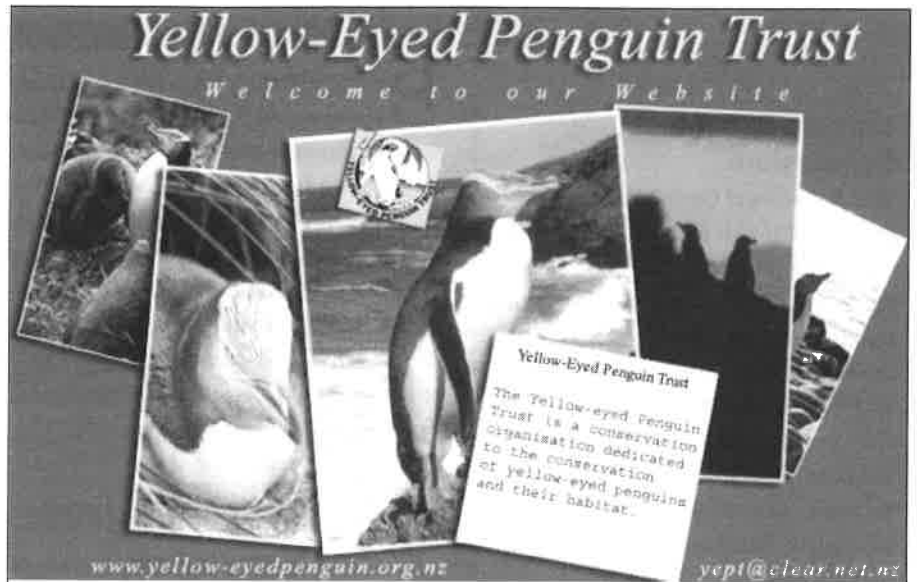
The Humboldt penguin *Spheniscus humboldti* (found in Chile and Peru) is in similar dire straits. Their

population has declined approximately 35% in 15 years and current reproductive rates are not sufficient to maintain long-term population viability under continued high fledgling mortality, adult mortality due to entanglement in nets as well as overall mortality, particularly during severe El Nino Southern Oscillation years, even if mortality attributed to harvest by humans is reduced to 1% per year.

THANKS

Many thanks to:

Nursery supporters; Members;
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 (Southlight Wildlife); Canon
 Copiers; Catriona Matheson; Cecily
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 Ltd; Malcam Trust; Maree
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 Stef Wade; Graham & Sherry
 Thurlow; Ron Greenwood Environ-
 mental Trust; Balivean Trust;
 Penguin Fund, Japan; Justin
 McCormack, Otago Polytechnic;
 Taylor McLachlan, accountants.



We're on line

www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust

now has its own web site thanks to the efforts of designer Justin Andrew McCormack of the Otago Polytechnic in Dunedin. We apologise for the delay, but we think you'll agree that the wait has been worth it. We are still working on a few areas, but invite you to take a look and let us know how you like it.

There are areas for members only. To access this section use your membership password and user name mailed to you with this newsletter. A huge thank you to Justin and the Polytechnic for all their help.

Heaps of penguins !

DEAN SCHNEIDER



DENIS PATERSON

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust would like to take this time to thank all of the photographers, both amateur and professional, who have donated their photos for us to use on our website helping us to promote the awareness of the yellow-eyed penguin to a much broader public.

This page shows just a sample of the type of photos that we have on our website and they look even better in full colour! Don't forget, you cannot access a closer look of these photos unless you are a member and use your membership password and user name. All photos are watermarked to avoid the possibility of the photographs being used without permission of the photographer. If you have photos you would like to share with us please feel free to e-mail them as a jpeg file or send a print to our office in Dunedin, including the photographer's name.

ROD MORRIS



NEVILLE PEAT



Once again, the Trust could not spread the word of the plight of the yellow-eyed penguin without the help of so many people that volunteer their expertise and time to such a worthy cause. Thank you.





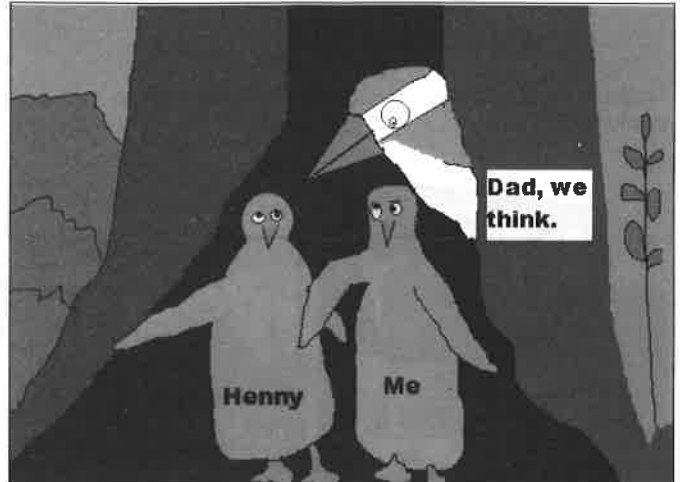
KIDS PAGE

The continuing adventures of Herbert Hoiho... The Guard Stage



That's me looking out from behind my mum. Well, I don't actually know if it is my mum because both parents take turn about to feed and look after us. Underneath is my sister Henny, at least I think it is my sister Henny. It is hard to tell with us penguins.

For more than a month our folks take turns guarding us day and night. The parent that is not guarding is fishing. Boy, do we get hungry if it takes two days for our fishing parent to catch enough fish. I don't like Henny because she always gets her head down the returning parents mouth first. I don't like waiting. It makes me mad. Our parents always make a fuss when they meet up again.



DAVID BLAIR

It is now more than a month since we hatched. I know because I watch the moon. Henny is fatter than me, and she squeaks a lot as she is always impatient for the fishing parent to get back with the food. Would you believe that both our parents have gone off together now and both bring back fish for us? Henny is delighted. Both our parents have been coming back to the nest at night and I like that because the night noises scare me, and there are things in the bush and in our tree.



This newsletter's task for young and old.

1. Draw a picture of Henny being fed by her parent.
 2. List and draw the animals that might be in the bush at night and which frighten Herbert.
- Hope to hear from you soon!

Take care. **David.**



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Age _____

Please post to: Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust, Attn: David, P.O. Box 5409, Dunedin. Competition closes 01 July 2001.

And the winner is...

Last November's *Kids Page* winner was Jake Lewis from Harwood. Jake has also drawn us a wonderful illustration on Saving the Hoiho. Check it out on the back of this page. Thanks, Jake, for a job well done. Kids...keep those drawings coming.



Treasure hunt - "Did you find any yellow-eyed penguin tracks yet?"

Sandfly Bay

As part of the school holiday programme, the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust sponsored two day trips for kids to Sandfly Bay on the Otago Peninsula. The first was held in October 2000, and repeated again in April 2001. The kids, some parents, and teenage helpers were picked up by bus from Dunedin and taken down to the beach where they



DAVID BLAIR

Sandfly Bay Kids Day. Last kid aboard for the trip back to Dunedin. - "Sandy shoes here, please."



SUE MURRAY

Sand sliding - the long trek back up the steep dunes.



went sand sliding, had a treasure hunt and participated in penguin and sea lion viewing.

As part of the treasure hunt they learned how to identify the different animal and bird tracks along the beach and up into the dunes. An assortment of seaweed, coastal plants, shells and other objects found along our coastline were all identified (sometimes with adult help) completing the treasure hunt.

"The event is not a fundraiser, the aim being to have fun and learn about local wildlife" says David Blair, Projects Officer with the Trust.

Many thanks to Jake Lewis, age 10, who shared with us his project on the Hoiho. There were so many wonderful illustrations, it was hard to pick just one to print on our *Kids Page*. Thanks, Jake, keep up the good work!

