

Keeping you informed about Ōtānewainuku Kiwi Trust. February
2020 Update

[View this email in your browser.](#)



ŌTANĒWAINUKU KIWI TRUST

Hi Bruce,

What a great start to 2020!

We had a great turnout for our first workday of 2020. Thank you to the volunteers who came and helped in the forest.

In the 6 months, from 1 April 2019 - 31 December 2019, volunteers have contributed a whopping 4,986 hours working for the Trust!
That is amazing and well done to all those who attend the workdays, work behind the scenes and maintain trap lines.

If you want to be part of a team then come along to a workday, or contact Gaylene volunteers@volbop.org.nz

FOREST WORKDAY - SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2020

When - Sunday 9th February 2020

What time - 9.00am to whenever

Where - Mountain Road

- We will start at 9 am. Please arrive a little earlier to ensure everyone is present at the briefing and H&S Induction.
- Sturdy walking shoes or boots will be required, as well as warm gear, raincoat, drink, and snacks if going out in the bush.

- Hi-Viz vest and personal first aid kit are recommended. Allergy medications need to be in first aid kit i.e. wasp sting.
- A reasonable level of fitness required.
- Basic equipment will be provided.

Please remember to check Facebook and email for cancellations.

SALTED RABBIT PROCESSING

Do you shoot rabbits, or know of someone who does?

The small, but very efficient, salted rabbit processing team has processed all the rabbits they had and are now looking for more.

If you can provide some more rabbits for them, preferably skinned and gutted (but they will take them as is), then please call Mac 027 474 6057, or John 0210564048.

Of course, if you would like to be a part of this team, then contact Mac or John and they will provide you with more details.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WITH OUR TRAPS?

In its short and partial existence (there are still a couple of lines to be deployed) the ferret 'ring of steel' perimeter doc 250 traps have caught:

13 ferrets
126 rats
2 stoats
3 cats
45 hedgehogs
1 mouse
11 rabbits

NEW TRAPPERS NEEDED!

We are after new trappers to take on the newly laid out DOC 200 stoat lines.

Anyone interested can contact Chris Pronk directly on 0204 116 2959

or pronky55@hotmail.com



KIWI TEAM UPDATE

Touch-wood our OT kiwi are within the boundary. Freckle hasn't tried another OE and the other singles are not moving around much. A kiwi was spotted by a trail runner at 5 pm one afternoon on the DOC track above Whataroa Falls. A few days later we caught up with Izzy not that far away from there for her band check. It could have been her doing an impromptu meet and greet.

Myfie and Toka produced their first live clutch on their second attempt. This is huge for the OT genetic base.

Tahi and Marama tried their first clutch, resulting in one tiny egg. 100gm when the average is 440gm. No one on the kiwi network has come back with a smaller kiwi egg. It had not developed.

Koura and Pistachio, Maui and Whetu both produced another infertile clutch.

Kaha and Chunukbair both abandoned their second clutches.

I think The Hatchery needs to run sex ed. classes for our boys.

In a perfect world with 8 pairs of breeding adults, the chick count would be 32 in a season. We have 5.

No one is incubating now but there is still time for another round from any of them.

Le Pew, our first chick from this season is due to be transferred to Warrenheip, and our last egg, Maggie, hatched 16th Jan.

Thank goodness OT has plenty of running water so our birds don't suffer as they do in Northland.

Cheers, Sheryl

Photos:-

Marama's tiny egg next to an average egg

Maggie just hatched and Maggie 2 days old.



EDUCATION TEAM

Hi everyone! I visited the Bay Learning Academy which was very good, just a small group but they were really fascinated with the kiwi specimen and the kereru specimen I was able to take along as well.

I played the call of the kiwi, both male, and female, and after I had shown a short PowerPoint presentation on Otago forest, the wildlife being preserved and protected there, and the pest control happening, I also played the kokako call as there is a good population of kokako in the forest as well.

The staff and students were keen to learn more about bird calls before their field trip to the forest and I left my bird call tape with them.

One of the students, from Nepal, did ask me why NZ chose such an odd bird to be our national emblem when we had such beautiful birds in our forest? I told him the kiwi was totally unique to NZ and we liked their attitude and their noisy calls!

The group made a generous donation to the Trust and also presented me with a kiwi emblem for my key ring.

Cheers Carole

FOR THE KIDS



Hi, kids (and maybe some adults)!

Here's a short quiz for you about the Ōtanewainuku forest. See how much you know! (Hint: Use our website to get the answers!) Answers at the end of this update.

(1) What is the species of kiwi that is in the Ōtanewainuku forest?

- (a) North Island Brown Kiwi
- (b) Little spotted Kiwi
- (c) Tokoeka

(2) What is the name of the bird that has been reintroduced into the forest?

- (a) Native long-tail bat
- (b) Robin
- (c) Kokako

(3) How many plant species does the Ōtanewainuku forest have?

- (a) Over 200
- (b) Over 300
- (c) Over 400

(4) What is a mustelid?

- (a) A stoat, ferret or weasel
- (b) A rat

(c) A possum

(5) When is the best time to remove a kiwi egg from the nest?

- (a) Whenever you want to
- (b) About a week before hatching
- (c) Wait until it hatches

OKT & SOCIAL MEDIA

Check us out on Facebook and Instagram and, if you take any photos at Ōtanewainuku that you're happy to share, please tag us in. We love seeing people enjoying the great walks there.

<https://www.facebook.com/otanewainuku/>

<https://www.instagram.com/otanewainukukiwitrust/>

The Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust (OKT) Handbook

This handbook gives an insight into the background of the trust, it's purpose and vision and how you as a volunteer can help achieve that vision. This is not only for those working actively in the forest but also to those helping behind the scenes.

If you would like a copy of the volunteer handbook emailed to you please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Gaylene Street

volunteers@volbop.org.nz or on 07 571 3714.



When the Forest Flourishes, the People Flourish.

Answers to kids quiz:

(1) a - North Island Brown Kiwi, (2) c - Kokako, (3) b - Over 300 species, (4) a - A stoat, ferret or weasel, (5) b - about a week before hatching



Copyright © 2018 Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust. All rights reserved

Our mailing address is:

Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust
PO Box 9311, Tauranga 3142

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

You can also update your [contact details](#).

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. The information contained in this e-mail message is CONFIDENTIAL and is intended only for the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this document is strictly prohibited. If you have received this document in error, please immediately notify us at www.kiwitrust.org and delete this transmission. THANK YOU.