



Trustpower Award for Volunteers' Work

The commitment and expertise of our volunteers was acknowledged at the Trustpower Community Awards in July. The OKT (Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust) won the Joan Kehely Trophy and \$500. The awards are sponsored by Trustpower, the WBOPDC and Tauranga City Council to celebrate the work of local volunteers. In introducing the OKT to our local Mayors, M.P.'s and participants at the Awards, Trustpower's Graham Purches mentioned that our trapping innovations had attracted interest from Kiwi Recovery Groups nationwide.

Trustees Carole Long and Sharon Seager were present on the night to receive the Award and kiss the line up of dignitaries. "I felt a little disappointed when we weren't mentioned in the Environmental and Heritage Awards," said Sharon, "so I listened hard to the presentations of the winning groups, thinking of how we could do better next year."

"It was a great surprise when our name was announced for a major award", said Carole. "I had to quickly switch my brain into acceptance speech mode."

Carole thanked our major sponsors, Environment BOP, Forest and Bird, and Comvita. She praised the work done by the volunteers, citing their wide range of skills and experience as a key to the Trusts success.



Kiwi Survey debrief

A chance to catch up with the team and swap stories over a cuppa and biscuits. Hear the latest news from DoC and the Kiwi Recovery Group.

Please bring your data sheets and any gear you have borrowed - compass, etc.

Meet at the **DOC office, Greerton at 7 p.m. on Thursday, 28 July 2005.**

AGM Guest Speaker from Kiwi Encounter

Presentation by Claire Travers, manager of Kiwi Encounter, Rotorua, about Operation Nest Egg (ONE).

ONE incubates kiwi eggs from the wild and rears the chicks until they are big enough to be stoat-proof and can be released into a kiwi zone. This is the best chance for the local kiwi population to be restored - find out the latest news!

Date: Thursday 4 August 2005

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Venue: Lecture theatre DT106, BOP Polytechnic Bongard Campus, Cameron Rd, Tga.

Contact: Carole Long 07 542 0224

All welcome. Gold coin donation.
Supper provided.

Open Day

Meet for a free sausage sizzle with volunteers and trustees and get an update on progress and plans for the future.

Guided walks available during the afternoon with options of going to the top of the mountain, around the rimu walk, or adventurous souls can inspect a trap line with our stoat trapping team.

Date: Sunday 7 August 2005 Time: 12 noon

Location: Meet at the shelter by the carpark at Otanewainuku Forest on Mountain Road, Oropi. Travel up No.2 Road from Te Puke, or up Oropi Road and Mountain Road from Tauranga.

Bring: Lunch (to go with the sausages), drink, WARM CLOTHES, sturdy footwear and a raincoat.

Contact: Carole Long 07 542 0224



Volunteer Notice Board

The depths of Winter can be a hard time to get motivated and check trap lines, but with the ever increasing bird life Otanewainuku's a pleasant place to spend a few hours on a winters day. Catch rates fall off markedly in winter, but remember it's best to catch that female stoat now before she gives birth to the next generation of killers in spring.

Baits

In April we finally reached the stage where I could not scrounge up any more rabbits (hooray I hear some of you say) so we have switched over to long-life baits which have been going well in another trapping operation. We will continue with the long-life baits and see how they perform. I welcome your feedback on the baits or any other issues you would like to discuss.

Winter Trapping & Line review

Our trapping operation has been running for nearly 3 years and is well supported by an excellent core of long term volunteers and a trickle of new people coming on board. We can always use more volunteers! We have learnt a heck of a lot during this time both from our own experiences and from other community groups. I generally try to include a couple of points for you in each newsletter that can help improve our field operations. I think we have reached the stage where a hands on review of field operations will be useful.

I plan to go out with each volunteer and review your trap lines, discussing issues such as changing the placement of non performing traps, replacing traps that require more TLC (*Ed - tender loving care!*) than they can be given in the field and generally bring you up to speed with both current best practice and the easier ways to go about the work. I'm sure I'll be learning too! It's also a chance for you to feedback your ideas so they can be passed onto others. If you let me know when you are planning on checking your lines in the next couple of months, I will do my best to get out with you so we can check the lines together.

Line Clearing Workday

Sunday 4 September: Expanding existing trapping area

Meet: 10am at the Otanewainuku shelter. We will work through to approx 3pm. Bring warm gear and good boots, a small pack with lunch and a drink. Cancelled if wet. All welcome! Contact Dave Edwards if coming.

Rat Monitoring Fieldwork

Date: to be advised - contact Dave or Carole
Volunteers needed to put out rat monitoring equipment (including ink pads and paper) on the Sunday and/or return Monday to collect the data (foot prints). Four people needed for Sunday and two for Monday.

Contact: Dave Edwards if you can help Ph 544 0885

Rat Trap Construction Workshops

Saturdays: 13 August, 10 September, 8 October
Time: 10am till approx 3pm, byo lunch.

Where: Neale's workshop in the Papamoa hills
586 Te Puke Quarry Road, Te Puke

What: Help make rat trap tunnel sets. All helpers get to take home a rat trap & tunnel to use at home. You must ring Neale if you are coming so he can arrange the day's work. Tools, tea and coffee provided. All welcome!

Contact: Neale Blaymires
Ph 573 4157
neale@orcon.net.nz

Trapping Tally in
Otanewainuku
For the latest tally update
see our website
www.kiwitrust.org

Situations vacant

With the expanding role the Trust is playing at Otanewainuku comes an ever increasing workload which at present is spread between too few people. If you'd like to come along to an operations committee meeting or are interested in one of these roles, do contact me. We're a friendly bunch and it's very satisfying work.

Work Day Co-ordinator

Volunteer to take on co-ordination of work days.

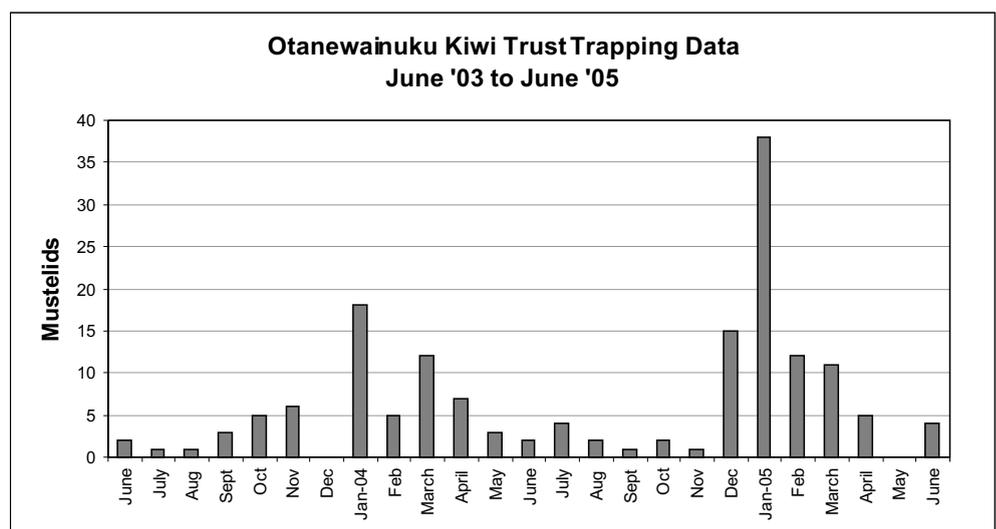
Feral Cat Control Co-ordinator

Volunteer to take on co-ordination and trapping of feral cats in the Otanewainuku Forest. Trapping area will be close to roadsides where dumping occurs.

Rat Trapping & Monitoring Co-ordinator

Volunteer to take on co-ordination of rat monitoring and/or trapping in the Otanewainuku Forest.

Contact: Dave Edwards 07 544 0885
djedwards@xtra.co.nz



Trustee Profile - Carole Long

Interview by Sharon Seager.

Carole fills many roles within the Otago Region Conservation Trust. As secretary/administrator she is at every Board meeting and Operations group meeting, recording what we are up to. In fact if she didn't drive us along, send out reminders, agendas and minutes the meetings might not happen. She "retired" from the DoC Office last year, and can still be found working there when the heat goes on.

Carole writes many of the Trust's press releases, co-ordinates open days, speaks to groups, writes reports, makes sure assigned tasks are moving along and if they're not, finds the right resources or people to help. She's a great administrator and communicator, and a warm and humorous person. This is just as well when she's trying to keep the Board pointed in the right direction. Carole lives in Papamoa with Brian. Their five children have left home and first great grandchild was born this year.

How long have you been interested in Conservation? As long as I can remember. I've been interested in learning about our flora and fauna since birth. My Dad worked for Lands and Survey and at one stage was Secretary of the National Parks Board. He took me on some of his work trips. My first job was as a secretary with the Wildlife Service, and it was while there I realised the challenges ahead. I have been a Forest and Bird member for 35 years. When the children were little they came on trips with me.



What are your interests? Being outdoors, at the beach or in the forest, learning about protected species, music, reading and our grandchildren

Best thing you ever did: Met Brian over the back fence and married him.

Worst thing you ever did? Fell off the flying fox at Ngatahoa Lodge, I was petrified and let go too soon. I had compressed fractures and a broken pelvis and it was six weeks before my daughters wedding. I was flat on my back for those six weeks. The whole experience was very humbling. Everything had to be done for me. The hospital staff were great. My charge nurse was a milliner and she made a hat for me to wear to the wedding.

What are you most proud of? Abseiling into the Lost World, as I am scared of heights.

I always wanted to: Go to Ireland where my roots are. See a kakapo which I did at Maud Island, I had one sitting on my knee. (See photo at left)

Who are your heroes? Neil Diamond and Paul Jansen.

Biggest frustration: Keeping dogs out of protected areas

What keeps you motivated? The people I work with, the challenge, and knowing I can make a difference.

"Otago Region - The Mountain of the Parting Waters" *Jim Pendergrast*

Otago Region was known to local Maori as the Mountain of the parting waters, where the clouds meet the land and the rain leaves the sky, giving the area it's high rainfall. The mountain is the headwater of many streams that initially flow in all directions. Those to the south and east mostly go underground within a short distance of the base of the mountain, and flow to the Kaituna River. Those to the North and West flow to the Tauranga Harbour and stay mostly on the surface as the Tautau and Waimapu Rivers. The Tautau feeds the treatment plant and large reservoirs in Oropi which supply Tauranga's water.

To be continued...

Business Sponsorship

Is your business or someone you know looking for a worthy local environmental project to sponsor??

We have a range of sponsorship options from as little as \$250 per annum.

Bronze: 10 hectares for 1 year \$250

Silver: 20 hectares for 1 year \$500

Gold: 40 hectares for 1 year \$1000

Platinum: 100 hectares for 1 year \$2500

For more info contact

Mark Dean 07 5433021
Mark@naturalenvironments.co.nz

Otago Region Photo Competition

Dust off your camera, polish your lenses or charge up your digital camera! We are seeking photos of our chiefly Otago Region Mountain which capture it's proud and powerful spirit.

1st Prize

2nd Prize

3rd Prize

Lunch for two at the restaurant Kiwi 360

Subscription to Forest and Bird Magazine

Kids Conservation Club & Magazine subscription

Post your photos to Otago Region Photo Competition 20 Simpson Rd Papamoa. CD's of photo's also accepted.

Competition closes 31 August 2005. No limit on number of entries. Photos may be used for promoting the trust's work and cannot be returned.

Pig Control in Otanewainuku

As at 1 July 2005 the 13 feral pigs have been removed from Otanewainuku Forest. With the high frequency of visits to the forest by OKT volunteers (more than 2500 hours per year) and DOC staff, presence of pigs is very quickly detected and hunters organised to remove them. Feral pigs can be a large threat to kiwi and to forest regeneration if numbers build up. The timely reporting of pig presence within the kiwi protection area ensures swift removal for ongoing protection of our kiwi. Call the Tauranga DoC office 578 7677 (24 hrs a day)

Dave Wills
Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust Board Member.

Sponsor a hectare

You can sponsor a hectare for just \$25 a year. Either fill in the form on the back of our brochure, or email us info@kiwitrust.org and we'll send you a brochure.

Night Manoeuvres in Search of Kiwi

The hills are alive with the sound of night birds! At least that is what kiwi surveyors from the OKT have found over the past two months. Sulphur crested cockatoo screeching over Mangatōi Road, magpies, spur winged plover and paradise shelduck join in the evening chorus of sheep settling down, far-off bulls bugling and dogs barking – then there is the serious sound of faint far-off whistles – could that be a kiwi?

Morepork calls chime in (did you know there are FIVE different morepork calls?) and there is the occasional cough and screech of a possum. If you are on the flight path to Tauranga airport there will be about 8 planes during the evening, and also a satellite or two to track.

Interest has been high in the survey, and good results are coming in from the 32 volunteers involved. Possible kiwi calls have been heard from three sites (though one of them was later identified as a morepork) and DOC will follow up with a search by a professional kiwi finder and his trained kiwi dog.

Another excellent result of the interest in the survey has been reports from outside the study area of Otanewainuku Forest with kiwi being reported on a rural back yard, and also on a rural roadside. These reports are always followed up – have you heard a kiwi lately? Please phone the DOC office at Tauranga 578 7677 as soon as possible after sighting or hearing calls. Phone line open 24 hrs.

Sitting out on a hill or in the bush from dusk till around 9 p.m. means you have to be daft or dedicated, but the rewards are worth it. Surveying is done on fine nights with not much wind, and an interest in astronomy becomes apparent very quickly. There is also a sense of competition in how many layers of clothing you can wear and still move – the air on clear frosty nights is extremely chilly. Later in the evening the dew comes down – one group was seen sitting under umbrellas on a fine night – but that was just to keep the breeze away. And what about the challenge of QUIET food – that elusive kiwi call may just get lost in the munch of a crisp apple.

As pest control continues in the forest, hopes are high that any remnant kiwi will be protected, and the other native birds are benefiting from a safer environment. The long term vision is to re-introduce kiwi as part of Operation Nest Egg – come to the Trust meeting in Conservation Week to learn more. (See page 1 - Ed)

More volunteers are needed for August as work picks up on rat trapping and keeping stoat lines checked and baited. For more information look at the website www.kiwitrust.org, or phone Neale Blaymires, 573 4157, Dave Edwards 544 0885 or Dave Wills 573 7322.



Thank-you very much!

We'd like to thank the following groups for their recent support. Check out our website for other businesses who support us.

Robyn Skelton **NZ Landcare Trust** for excellent facilitation at our strategy meeting.
Comvita www.comvita.com for printing another run of brochures for us.
Web Stitch Needlecraft Designs www.webstitch.co.nz for sponsoring our domain name and web hosting 2005

Sponsor a hectare
I & P Cross of Tauranga and T L & M J Parker of Papamoa.



Dogs kill kiwi
Leave them at home

Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust Useful Contacts

Chairman	Mark Dean	07 543 3021	mark@naturalenvironments.co.nz
Volunteers	Dave Edwards	07 544 0885	djedwards@xtra.co.nz
Trapping	Neale Blaymires	07 573 4157	neale@orcon.net.nz
Secretary	Carole Long	07 542 0224	carolelong@xtra.co.nz
Finances	John Mullany	07 579 1917	j.mullany@clear.net.nz

Please send photos, comments and other newsletter or web site contributions to:

Moana Hodge
Hereford Rd, Oropi, R.D.3
Tauranga 3021

Ph 07 543 1478

Or preferably by email to:
moana@webstitch.co.nz