



AGM Guest Speaker:

Avi Holzapfel

Kiwi Recovery Group Leader

Avi has much experience in species recovery planning, having led in the past the *Dactylanthus* (wood rose) and the Native Frog recovery group. A big part of his role is coordinating on a strategic level the national effort in kiwi recovery, which now goes way beyond DOC's work and includes the community effort, captive industry and corporate sponsorship.



Diary it today!

When: Thursday 21 May 2008 7.00 p.m.

Where: Tauranga Volunteer Coastguards Rooms.
Under the Chart House Sulphur Point Tauranga

Contact: Carole Long 07 542 0224

All welcome Gold coin donation

Kiwi Crèche on Hold - Translocation of birds a priority

Due to recent developments the Trust has reviewed the crèche project and decided to put it on hold. We are very grateful for the support shown for this project.

Two main factors in our decision were :

In January this year DOC published the Threatened Species Recovery Plan 60 entitled 'Kiwi (*Apteryx spp.*) Recovery Plan 2008 -2018', which outlines current evidence relating to kiwi populations. The national Kiwi Recovery Group have advised that they are going to undertake a review of crèche facilities to determine both what facilities will now be required longer term and where those crèches should be located. This review is not due to be completed until some time in 2010. The recently opened kiwi crèche in Hawkes Bay has lessened the workload on Kiwi Encounter in Rotorua thereby reducing the requirement for further crèche facilities in the area.

The Trust maintains its goal of having " a viable breeding population of kiwi at Otanewainuku" and has sought expert opinion on how best to achieve our goal. The best option is considered to be translocating kiwi from both wild and captive bred populations: this method was used to acquire the four kiwi released at Otanewainuku in 2007. For an area the size of Otanewainuku Forest, a self sustaining population of 60 pairs of kiwi is needed for genetically diversity. Once we get to 100 pairs, only limited monitoring will be needed. Pest control will always be needed.

We'd like to express our sadness at the death of Western BOP District Council **Mayor Graeme Weld** who was a great Supporter of the Trust's work. Our thoughts are with his family at this time. He is pictured here sharing a moment with friend Jim Pendergrast at our first kiwi release at Otanewainuku.



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.

When: Sunday 7th June 2009 12.30pm

Where: 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 542 0224



Night time egg lift: Extreme care taken as Peter Cosnahan holds one of our kiwi eggs while Dave Willis gently wraps it in a soft sock before transfer to Kiwi Encounter. Nigel Veale and Trish Gardiner look on.

Volunteer Notice Board

That long beautiful spell of autumn weather is continuing but, as we all know, winter is just around the corner. Winter can be a hard time to get motivated to check trap lines or help out at workdays. Remember that with the ever increasing bird life, particularly the inquisitive little robins, Otanewainuku is a pleasant place to spend a few hours on a winters day. You leave knowing that you have made a difference to our special forest, and that alone will keep you toasty inside!

Pockets of brilliant orange/red rata flowers are starting to emerge and the kohekohe seed capsules can be clearly seen. The abundance of both are a result of previous year's pest control. With the cooler weather we have gone back to checking trap lines once a month and will for the time being continue to alternate rabbit and eggs down the lines. Copies of the latest trapping data are in the gear cabinet so please take a copy. We've had another successful year trapping. Thanks everyone. Since we began in October 2002 we have caught 426 mustelids (stoats and ferrets). The next stage in stoat trapping will be to increase trapping on the boundaries to better control reinvasions.

Bait Station Operation

Seeing the significant increase in bird numbers and big improvements in our forest health as a result of previous years Bait Station operations made the decision to carry out another operation this winter an easy one. Finding the funds and doing the work is the hard bit! The operation will cover 925 hectares and be carried out from late June to early October, with workdays in May and June to tidy up and re-mark lines.

We time the Bait Station Operation so we have the lowest predator numbers possible when bird breeding begins. This gives them the best chance to fledge their chicks thus giving the next generation of our feathered friends a good start in life. Our target species will be possums and rats, with rats arguably being the biggest threat to the forest ecosystem. (See rat info sheet on our website). This year we will be using Colicalciferol and Ditrac, which are approved for use by volunteers and pose minimal risk to non -target species. Bait stations are used to further reduce any risk. Community support and volunteer input last year was brilliant so we will again carry out this year's operation using solely volunteers. If you are interested in helping out or want to know more please give me a call. Dave Edwards 544 0885.

Workdays Sunday 24th May Sunday 7th June

The first three workdays will be to re-cut and mark lines and will be held 9am - 1pm on. We will be working in small groups, the work is not too strenuous and we can generally tailor tasks to suit the individual.

Meet: at the shelter by car park Otanewainuku forest on Mountain rd. start 9.00 am finish approx. 1pm

Bring: small pack with lunch, drink, warm clothes, sturdy footwear and a raincoat.

The trust will provide a BBQ at the end of workday, if you can help or wish to know more please contact Dave Edwards 544 0885 or Dave Wills 573 7322

Volunteers

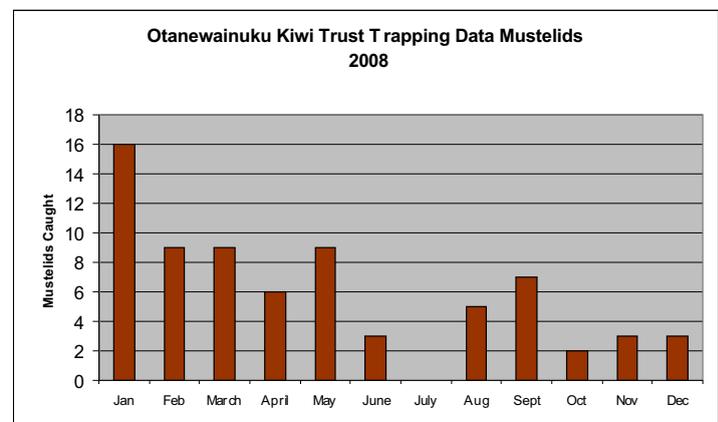
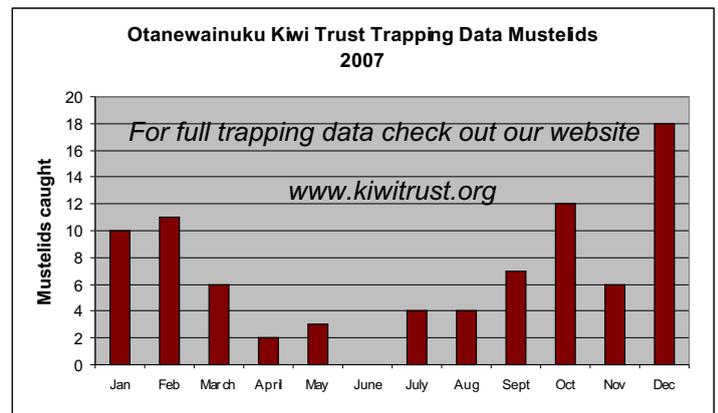
A special thanks to all the volunteers who contribute time to our projects, especially the 20 people do stoat trap lines, it's not a very glamorous part of our work but essential to help make Otanewainuku a very special place. As always if you have comments or suggestions please give me a call.

Dave Edwards

Supplejack

Memorable for its ability to get in your way, snare you, trip you up, occasionally give you a good beating and generally make a nuisance of its self. But like all trouble makers Supplejack has some redeeming features. The Maori name for supplejack is Kare-ao, meaning "twisted rope". The roots were used for medicinal purposes, the vines used in basket work and making rope ladders for cliff climbing. It's botanical name is *Ripogonum scandens*, meaning flexible jointed and climbing, well named, although I am sure there are plenty of other names that are equally suitable that people have thought up in the heat of the moment.

Supplejack is a member of the lily family with only 4 other close relatives all living in Australia, sounds typical. The fruit is a reasonably large 8mm, bright red with a single seed. An excellent food source for our larger birds. So remember the next time you're hacking and chopping and cursing your way through that tangle of supplejack. It does have some useful purpose, is a food source for our native birds and is yet another link to our favourite neighbours. Let's just be thankful it doesn't have thorns like bush lawyer! Dave Brown



Trustee Profile: Dave Wills

A founding Trustee, Dave is very involved with the Operations Committee.

How did you get involved with the Trust?

"I had spent many enjoyable hours in the Otanewainuku Forest as a teenager, so I felt by volunteering to become a Trustee was one way I could make a difference and help bring Otanewainuku back to its former glory."

How long have you been involved in Conservation?

"I started volunteering with DOC in 1990, then working on projects for DOC as a contractor. I spent many rewarding years observing and studying the North Is dotterel on Matakana Is. I then went on to managing the kaka and kereru projects in the Pureroa and Whirinaki areas. I was also involved with catching kokako for the Kaharoa Kokako Project. I took up a permanent position as a Ranger with DOC in the Tauranga Office in 2003, so with this background it seemed only natural for me to become involved in the OKT."

Why do you volunteer your time?

"I just enjoy the work. I have been fortunate to have worked in many amazing wilderness areas all over the country and realise how special Otanewainuku is. Watching the recovery of the bird life and the forest as a whole motivates me to put in the long hours from time to time."

What is your biggest frustration?

"Our inability to track down the remaining resident kiwi in the forest. I have heard two myself, but still the most experienced kiwi dog in the country couldn't pick up their scent, simply because the territory is so large. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack."

Where do you think the Trust is going from here?

"Through DOC and the efforts of the Operations Committee it looks very promising that we will be introducing more young kiwi into Otanewainuku Forest. In late 2010 we aim to re-introduce 10 pairs of kokako. This means we will need more volunteers to learn radio tracking so that we can monitor both kiwi and kokako."

What pleases you most about the progress the Trust has made?

"It has been amazing to watch the Trust grow from a group of enthusiastic individuals, into a well organised and dedicated team of people which in turn has meant the Trust has become a widely respected community group."



Kiwi Hui in Turangi - sponsored by BNZ & DOC

150 kiwi keepers gathered from around NZ to learn from each other. The main focus of the first day was dogs. Effectiveness and methods of aversion training was discussed, together with workshops on changing attitudes and ways of engaging with different sectors of the community. A feature of the display was a formidable dog trap with a remote alert. The strong message was to go out to people and educate them on this major threat to kiwi, including councils to get high standards of dog control. "Stop Kiwi Going to the Dogs" was a catch cry. And the message Stray Dog + Kiwi = DEATH.



Situations Vacant

The rewards from being part of a successful volunteer trust can be enormous!

Fundraising Committee: A fun group and a great way to help if bush work isn't your strength.

Secretary The Trust is looking for a new Secretary. Carole Long has filled the role for 6 years and would like to step down as secretary and take over the education and advocacy role.

Fieldwork We are after people who would like to help out on trap lines and workdays.

Like to know more? Contact Carole 542 0224 or email her on info@kiwitrust.org

Jim Pendergrast was a joint winner with Dorothy Mutton of the individual category in the Environmental Awards 2009 presented by Environment Bay of Plenty (EBOP). To avert vandalism of cars parked at the shelter at the foot of Otanewainuku, Jim set up and organises a roster of local volunteers who keep watch at the car park every weekend. This has had a huge impact on visitor numbers and the ability for people to enjoy their forest visit with peace of mind, knowing their vehicles will be safe and undamaged when they return. During his time at the shelter, Jim (and his wife Ngaire, pictured right) does a wonderful job of interpretation of the values of the forest, promoting the work of the OKT, telling his stories of the history of the area, making sure people do **not** bring dogs into the kiwi zone. Congrats Jim!



Kiwi listening survey- great turnout!

21 new people turned up for training giving us a great team. A grant of \$4800 from EBOP's EEF means we can put in a kiwi dog to track our remnant population of kiwi.

Te Puke Primary visits Otanewainuku

There was a blaze of orange/red to match the rata up at the shelter as children from Te Puke Primary school learnt more about the taonga (treasure) in their back yard.



Thank-you very much!

Sponsor a Hectare & new Members

E & R de Vries of Pyes Pa, Val Yates of Te Puke, Cindy Taylor of Te Puke, IR & RJ Borrie of Welcome Bay, Pua Westhead of Oropi, Mrs Enid M Cox of Tauranga, Barry & Maggie Waite of Te Puke, Juliet Rice of Oropi, Rita Carter of Matua, David & Janet Duggan of Tauranga, Barry McKey of Otumoetai, Patricia Skelly of Te Aroha, D W Stephens of Te Puke, Tricia Ward of Oropi, Shirley Anderson of Cambridge, Ruth James & Fronde Systems Group Ltd of Auckland, Annie Roska & Rod McCall of Te Anau, Keith McLeod of Otumoetai, Jim Taylor of Pyes Pa, Joyce Bates of Papamoa, Roger & Jan Ward of Te Puke, S & R Vercoes of Te Puke, Bill Wallace of Greerton, Janet Hutchings of Tauranga, Brain Stems Ltd (Jan & Mike Scadden) of Te Puna, Danny Hall of Te Puke and Maketu Health and Social Services.

Donations

Thank you to all who have supported the **crèche** proposal, including sponsor a post donors, WBOP District Council and members of the Fundraising committee who have spent many hours applying for funding, including their successful Lotteries grant.



We are grateful to the Round Table for transferring your crèche donation of \$4000 to OKT capital expenditure on items including new traps. Thanks to **Dorothy Mutton** for transferring her \$1000 sponsor a post donation to our next kiwi translocation and to **Te Puke Rotary Club** for transferring their \$500 creche sponsorship to other Trust projects. Members of the Tauranga **Round Table** have become regulars at our workdays. Thanks everyone - we look forward to seeing you back again for this winter's pest control.



A special thanks to all those who so generously assist with sponsorship of the Trust's work. Without your contributions the restoration of Otanewainuku simply couldn't happen. Thanks to Brian Rickey of **Full Circle**

Arboriculture in Papamoa \$500. **Comvita** \$408.90 for our newsletter and other printing costs. **Te Puke Primary School** \$156.

Ace Embroidery of Welcome Bay continue to support us with our logo embroidery to the tune of \$535.08 If you have an embroidery job do contact Mike. He's a great guy and has supported us hugely for many years.

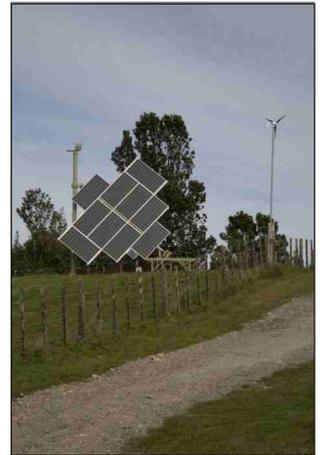
Thanks to **Will and Karen Robinson** who have raised \$500 for the Trust during their Off the Grid Open days at their **Solar Barn**. See their amazing solar sail in this photo (right). Will is pictured holding his prototype sail.

Environment BOP award. This year we were highly commended for our work in the community and received a cheque for \$300.

Wanted - Major Kokako Sponsor

As with all our work, there will a cost of around \$30,000 for the kokako translocation, and we are keen to find a sponsor who would assist.

All offers and suggestions most welcome!



Photos Moana Bianchin



Join us!

Name _____

Address _____

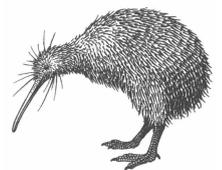
Phone _____

Email _____

- Membership - 1 year **\$10**
- Sponsorship - 1 hectare for 1 year **\$25**
- Sponsorship - hectares for years \$ _____
- Make a donation \$ _____

Make your cheque out to Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust
PO Box 9311 Greerton Tauranga info@kiwitrust.org

For the latest news
see our website
www.kiwitrust.org



Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust Contacts

Secretary	Carole Long carolelong@xtra.co.nz	07 542 0224
Chairman	Dave Edwards djedwards@xtra.co.nz	07 544 0885
Ops Committee	Dave Wills dwills@clear.net.nz	07 573 7322
Finances	Maartje Houthuyzen alidah@ihug.co.nz	07 577 9123
Website & Newsletter	Moana Bianchin moana@cloudnine.co.nz	07 543 1478