



# Hoiho

November 2017

[www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz](http://www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz)

ISSN 1179-2981



1987  
2017

OUR STORY IN PICTURES | WHERE WERE YOU IN '87? | OUR THANKS

# Our amazing people

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust is all about penguins, plants, people and passion. And what an outstanding group of people the Trust has worked with since 1987. Do you remember these folk (in no particular order and our apologies if we missed anyone)?

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Lala Frazer (current)  
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Gaileen Ross  
Aviva Stein  
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## Rakiura team

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Sandy King  
Paul Johnston  
Antje Leseberg  
Julie McInnes  
Nick Torr  
Joanna Wright  
Jen van der Lubbe



## Where were you in '87?

We share our year of birth with Lotto, Rugby World Cup, The Simpsons, Windows 2.0 and Hayley Westenra.

We were glued to Dallas, MacGyver and Playschool. And rocked to Funky Town, La Bamba and Lean On Me.

Reagan, Gorbachev, Thatcher and David Lange ruled the world.

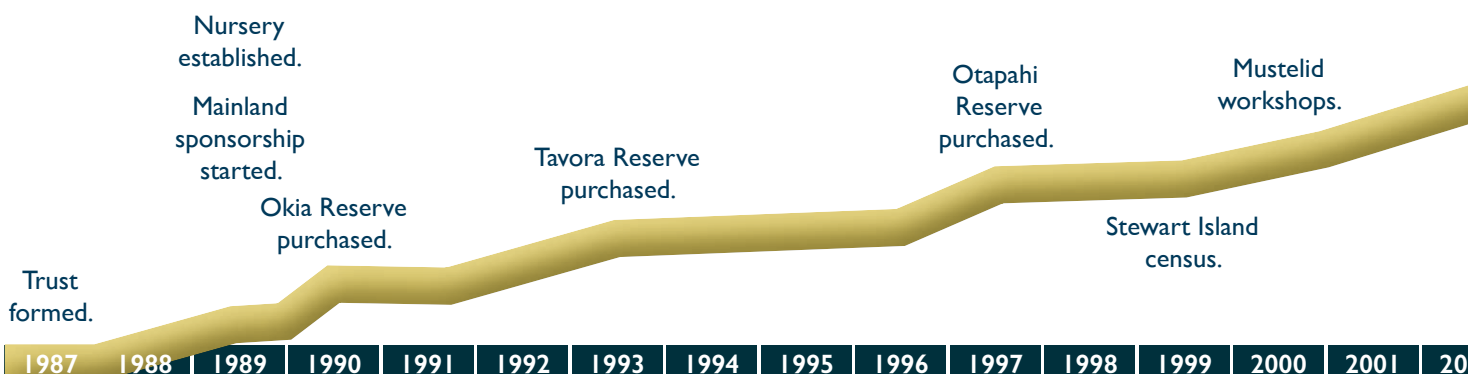
New Zealand went nuclear-free.

Māori became an official language of Aotearoa.

There was a coup in Fiji.

The stock market crashed – it was “Black Tuesday”.

And the world's population reached five billion.







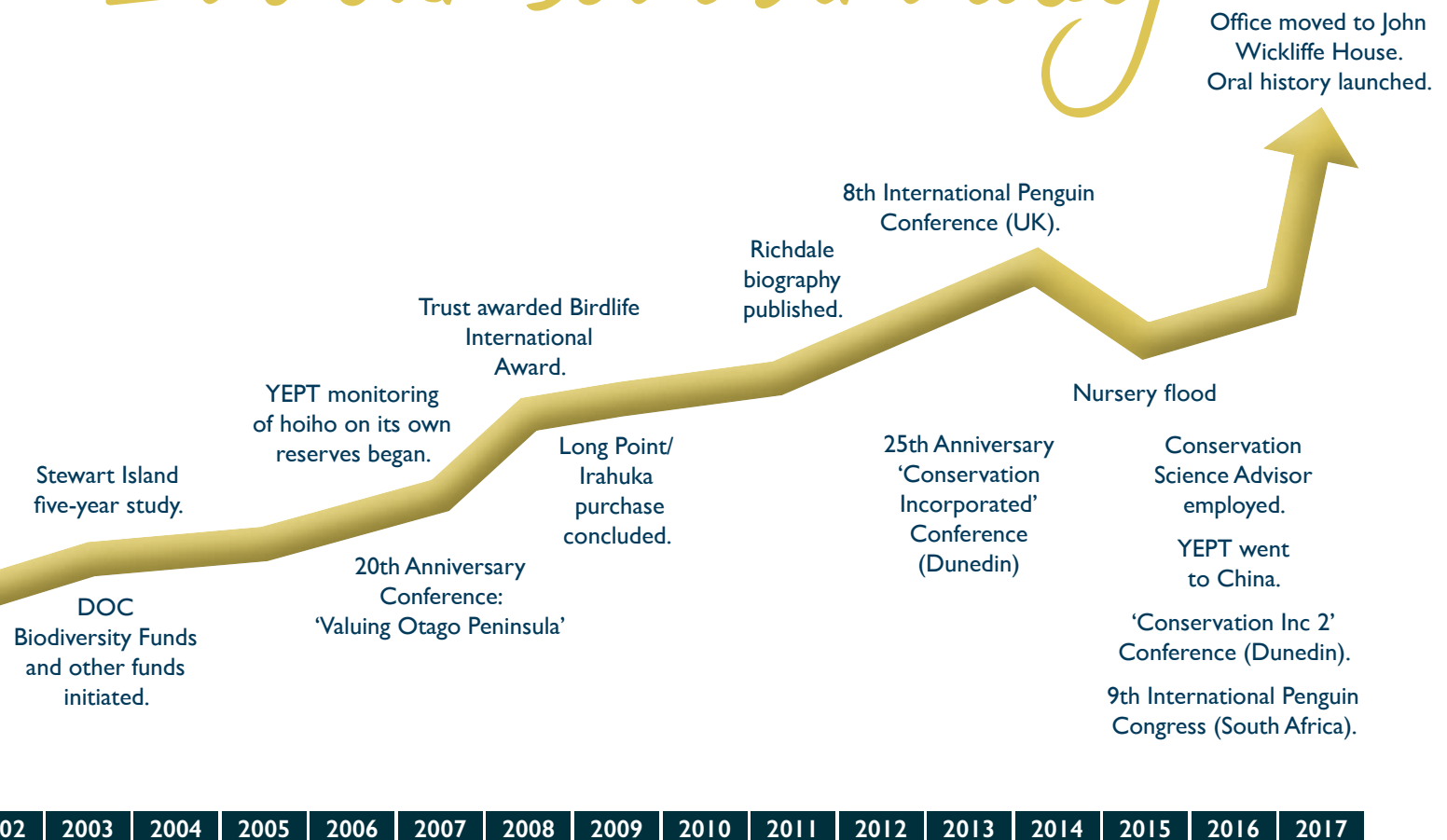
1987  
2017

30



Photo: Frank Fichtmuelle www.shutterstock.com

# *It's our 30th birthday*



02 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017



1987  
1990



YEPT's founding Trustees signing the original constitution with lawyer Bill Armitage (seated left) on 20 October 1987



The Trust's first plant nursery, at the Dunedin Methodist Mission home, 1988



Trustees meeting with the birds and Janice Jones (centre) at Moeraki Lighthouse, 1988



Volunteers feeding a hoiho chick at the SPCA in Dunedin, 1990

BIR 7/2/2/1	
RECORD OF FIRST MEETING OF YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN CONSULTATIVE GROUP 27 SEPTEMBER 1989	
<b>PRESENT</b>	
Messrs:	Darby (Otago Museum) Stewart, Duncan (World Wildlife Fund) McKay, McGrouther (landowner) Braid (commercial fisherman) Ramsay (Peninsula Fed Farmers Wildlife Group) Williams (OE II Trust) Loh (Royal Forest & Bird) Kernedy, Connell (DOC)
Mesdames:	Dowsett (Y.E.P. Trust) McKay (landowner)
<b>DECISIONS</b>	
1	<b>Membership</b> Before the next meeting, DOC would - talk to Martin Finlay about Federated Farmers representation on the Group. - notify MAFish and Commercial Fishermen's Association of existence of group, future agendas, invite them to attend whenever they wished and particularly if an issue came up they would be directly concerned in - discuss maori representation on the Group with them.
2	<b>Chairing</b> The issue of independent chairing would be "laid on the table" for further consideration as required. There was a consensus that interim chairing by J Connell (DOC) was acceptable.
3	<b>Function</b> It was agreed the main function of the Group was the co-ordination and mutual support of the participant's own separate penguin conservation programmes.
4	<b>Frequency of Meetings</b> This was dictated by "the Penguin Year", which is more or less: Winter - habitat planting Spring - census, hatching Summer - "law enforcement" Autumn - end of breeding, analysis of census results available



1991  
1994



1987  
2017



■ The new hide at Sandfly Bay, 1992



■ Dunedin Festival Procession, 1992



■ Tavora Reserve was purchased in 1993



■ David Bellamy opens Tavora Reserve, 1994



■ Sir Edmund Hillary celebrates the new Hillary and hoiho \$5 note at Okia Reserve, 1993



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THIS OFFER IS REDEEMABLE ONLY ON MAINLAND'S NEW 125g NATURAL CHEESE. MILD, TASTY, VINEGARED, COLBY.

■ Mainland launched its iconic fundraising TV commercial starring Roy Wesley and a hoiho at Okia Reserve and Mahinapua Hotel on the West Coast



1995  
1998



■ The 1995 fire at Te Rere Reserve in the Catlins killed 54 hoiho, half the population



■ Dunedin Festival Procession, 1996



■ Clare Fraser and Jim Ellison installing a new interpretative panel at Okia Reserve, 1997



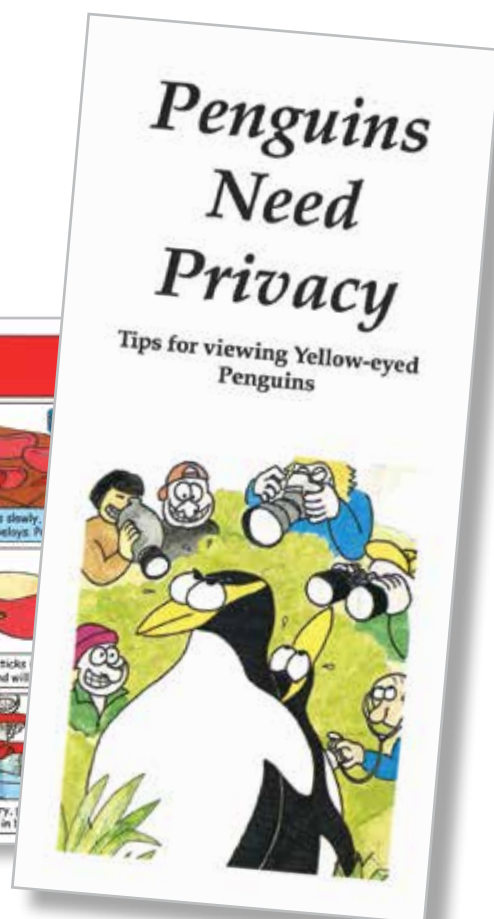
■ Jim Ellison working at the new nursery at Company Bay, 1997



■ Tenth anniversary of the Trust celebrated at Tavora, 1997



■ A hoiho appeared in an Alison Holst recipe book, 1998





1999  
2002



1987  
2017



■ David Blair on his way to conducting the first hoiho census on Stewart Island/Rakiura, 1999



■ Nursery volunteers Margaret and Mike Hazel



■ Patron Beverley Lady Reeves planting totara at Tavora Reserve, 2000



■ David Bellamy visits Trust members at YEPT HQ, Dunedin, 2000



■ Open Day at Tavora Reserve, 2001

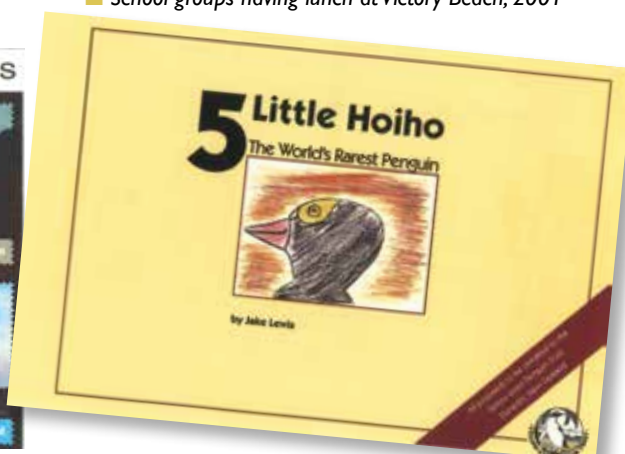


■ School groups having lunch at Victory Beach, 2001

# Penguins adorn New Zealand stamps



■ Hoiho celebrated on the \$2 postage stamp, 2001



■ A fundraising book written by ten-year old Jake Lewis, 2002



2003  
2006



■ Our hardworking indispensable ute, 2003



■ Minister of Conservation Chris Carter lobbies a future voter at the presentation of a biodiversity grant, 2003



■ Brave participants of the Dunedin Polar Plunge, mid-winter 2003



■ Mainland staff planting at Omihi Reserve, 2004



■ Esther Cowley of the Pacific Development and Conservation Trust presents a cheque to Trustee Peter Simkins at the Trust nursery, 2005



■ Port Chalmers School, winners of Mainland's 'Help Our Hoiho' competition, 2005



■ Trustee Pat Mark inspects plantings of pikao at Tavora Reserve, 2005



■ Handing over the reins of patron with a cutting of the cake, Beverly Lady Reeves and Anton Oliver, 2006



2007  
2010



■ Margaret Suman and Anita Pillai with the Trustpower Community Supreme Award Trophy, won by the Trust Nursery in 2007



■ Glowing Sky Clothing produced a Trust tee in 2009



■ Penguin Party on board Pacific Blue's inaugural flight from Brisbane to Dunedin, 2009



■ Jim Young was awarded to Teaching Fellowship from the Royal Society of New Zealand for his work at Long Point/Irahuka, 2009



■ The Trust published a series of field guides, 2005



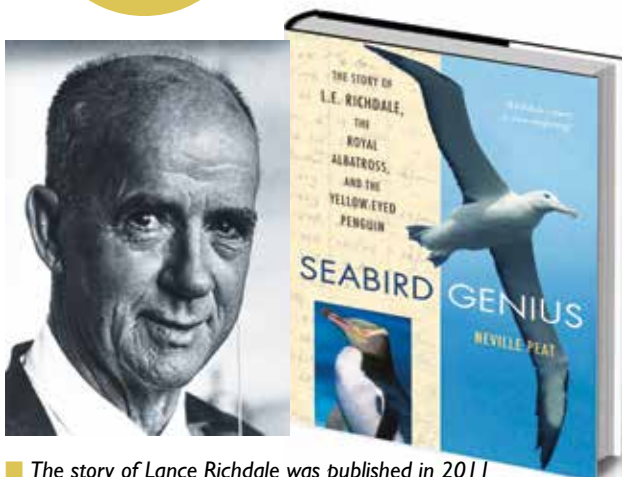
■ Macandrew Bay School painted a wall mural at the Trust's Nursery to celebrate the wildlife of Otago Peninsula, 2010



■ The crew of the sub-Antarctic expedition to Auckland Islands, 2010



2011  
2014



■ The story of Lance Richdale was published in 2011



■ Local volunteers planting native flora on the Catlins coast, 2011



■ Hoiho in the Dunedin Santa Parade, 2012



■ Rosemary Clarkson picks fundraising daffodils at Cleveland Park, 2012



■ Penguin Place gives rehabilitative care to starving hoiho chicks, 2013



■ Jane Goodall spending time with Sue Murray, on board a Monarch Wildlife Cruise, 2014



■ The team behind the first Conservation Inc conference held in Dunedin in 2013



2015  
2017



■ Real Journey's Cruise For A Cause was a stunning fundraiser, 2015



■ A scene of devastation after the nursery flood, 2015



■ Cath Wallace of ECO asking a question at Conservation Inc 2, 2016



■ The Trust's nursery was back in business after a huge clean-up, 2016



■ Specialist wildlife vet Dr Lisa Argilla operates on a hoiho, 2016



■ The soft release of rehabilitated hoiho at Long Point/Irahuka, 2017

## Mixed bag – season update for 2017

Nest searches have been completed across Trust reserves in Otago and Southland, as well as the Trust monitored sites on Rakiura/ Stewart Island. The number of nests across our mainland reserves have been reasonably consistent with the last year, with some sites even showing an increase of a couple of nests. There has however been a decline in numbers at the Bravo Islands and Anglem coast of Rakiura. The number of breeding pairs on Whenua Hou/Codfish Island is much more concerning with a decline from 24 nests last year to only 14 in 2017. In 2001 this predator-free island site had 61 nests.

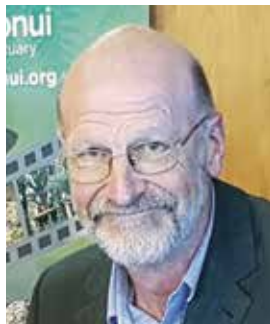
The first chicks hatched relatively early at Long Point on 31 October, and the first observations of chicks on the Otago Peninsula were on 3 November. Some birds are still sitting tight on eggs but we hope to have a full complement of chicks by the time you are reading this.

Unfortunately, diphtheria has again been detected on Otago Peninsula and is affecting chicks at the Trusts Okia and Otapahi breeding sites. So far there is no sign of the disease in North Otago, and the team will be checking birds down in the Catlins very soon. A plan of regular monitoring and treatment, including debriding the lesions, has begun on the peninsula and will continue over the first few weeks after the eggs hatch.

On a positive note, many juveniles have been seen across our reserves, so chick survival last year was good. A number of two year old birds have also recruited to the population and have bred for the first time this year.



## A note from the Chair



It is a thrill being able to write this column, thirty years after the Trust's inception. The hundred or so guests who attended our recent birthday party attested to the amount of effort by so many people that has gone into creating and maintaining a viable, long-lived conservation organisation.

When the Trust was formed it adopted a single-species focus; unique at that time. Shortly after, and with Mainland on board, the Trust's current *modus operandi* gradually evolved. Now we are part of conservation effort comprising three parts: the Department of Conservation as the regulatory authority and provider of staff and expertise, Mainland as major sponsor, and the Trust as an NGO committed to yellow-eyed penguins in particular and, through coastal habitat restoration, other sea birds more generally. Over three decades, this tripartite model has been adopted and adapted, particularly as various Ministers of Conservation have attempted to make their marks on how DOC, and conservation as a whole, should operate.

Some Ministers have been visionary (though not always with a vision we shared), others have been more or less competent, and one, well... no doubt did their best.



### Help Mainland raise \$75,000 to save hoiho

Buy Mainland cheese and butter with the Mainland Hero logo on the labels and you are helping to save the endangered yellow-eyed penguin.

One recent development has been DOC's willingness to explore various kinds of partnerships, still operating within their Section 4 obligations to their Treaty partners and over and above straight forward sponsorship.

Looking toward the next thirty years the challenge is, how best should these novel partnership arrangements engage with the very competitive conservation funding environment that is a feature of today's world and likely to continue. These discussions are underway and look promising.

Right now, yellow-eyed penguin numbers on the mainland are disappointing and challenging, a situation we have experienced before during our thirty years of being involved with these magnificent birds.



At the birthday party, there was a clear sense of determination and a willingness to carry on with the work mapped out for us by our visionary founding Trustees thirty years ago. Already, we are banging on the new Minister's door, ready to engage with the new government and ever cautiously optimistic that our visions will align.

Eric J. Shelton  
Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust Board Chair

#### Thank you to our regular supporters:

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Nursery supporters  
AdArt Brand Promotion  
Blackhead Quarries  
Canon NZ  
Department of Conservation  
Downie Stewart  
DCC (Task Force Green team)  
Foote Haulage (Woodlands)  
Forest & Bird South Otago Branch  
Mainland Brand  
Otago Polytechnic Horticulture & Arboriculture Depts  
Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group  
Richard Roberts  
The Malcam Charitable Trust

#### Thank you for Funding from:

Anstiss-Garland Charitable Trust  
ANZ Staff Foundation  
Coffee Club supporters  
DOC Community Fund  
Distinction Dunedin Hotel  
Dunedin Airport  
Dunedin City Council  
DCC Biodiversity Fund  
EcoWai and partners to the programme  
Heseltine Trust  
Inside Tourism  
Otago Museum  
Otago Pellet Fires  
Otago Regional Council  
Scenic Hotel Dunedin City

#### Special thanks this issue to:

Allister Robinson  
Andy & Melissa Moore  
Bruce Kyle  
Contact Call Centre  
Corrections Department  
Dave Houston  
DCC Water & Waste team  
Graham Thurlow  
Hamish McFarlane  
Joe Wesney  
Juliette & Ian Parsons  
Kath Johnson  
Max Affleck  
Mel Young  
Monarch Wildlife Cruises  
NZ Deer Stalkers Association (Dunedin Branch)  
Penguin Place  
Penguin Rescue  
Richard Seed  
Stu & Jen Affleck  
Thomas Mattern  
Tony Stewart

#### Thank you to:

All the landowners who have contributed to our habitat protection work

#### Thank you to all Volunteers:

We are tremendously grateful to all the other volunteers, including the regular Nursery workers and the Habitat Volunteer Team for their valuable contributions to our work.



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