



Treetop Tales

July 2021

Welcome to our first edition of Treetop Tales, a monthly roundup of news, advice, events and the latest happenings at BirdCare Aotearoa and the wild birds of Aotearoa.

In this issue...

- What's new - A new name and a new website!
 - Our work - 148 Cook's Petrels rescued in six weeks
 - Spotlight - an oyster catcher with an expensive taste in food!
 - What to do when - a bird is caught in a Parapara Tree
 - Thanks to you - we raised over \$13,800 for a new waterbird enclosure
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What's new?

We have rebranded to BirdCare Aotearoa to better reflect what we do!

We don't actually rescue birds and our old name was often a cause of confusion within the community. Members of the public actually rescue the birds and then bring them into us for medical care and attention at our hospital in Green Bay, Auckland.

AND, we have a [flash new website](#) thanks to Jon Adams, ([Websites by Jon](#)), a fellow bird rescuer who generously gave his time and energy to make this happen at no cost.

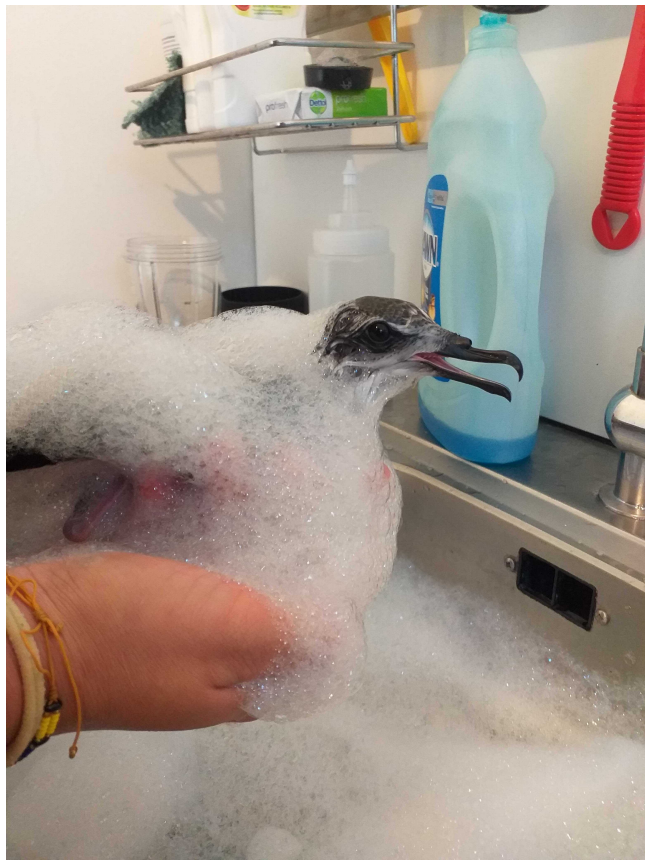
Our new and modern website is bright and engaging and better reflects our vision of becoming a National Centre of Excellence in wildlife rehabilitation.

A truly wonderful gift and a massive improvement on our previous website which was over 10 years old! Thank you Jon. x

And in case you were wondering, our new look, logo and branding was the creation of the very talented [Karl Bezins](#), who we cannot recommend highly enough.

We had a dream team to work with!

Our work...



We received 148 Cooks Petrels through our centre from mid-March to April - the bulk of which arrived over one week!

No sooner had we released them, a new batch arrived, so we were certainly kept on our toes.

Poor weather and low cloud levels kept fledging petrels flying lower than usual over Auckland.

Attracted by the bright city lights they became grounded on roads, beaches or backyards...

[Continue reading the story](#)

Spotlight



I arrived at hospital (BirdCare Aotearoa) with a very sore head (suspected head trauma) and very skinny (underweight).

The nice lady put me on oxygen, gave me something to drink (fluids) and made my head feel better (pain relief). Yay.

I was given food through a tube for a few days and watched very closely by the nice lady. I was feeling better so...

What to do when...



Image: A Ruru - before and after being caught in a Parapara Tree

...you find a bird caught in a parapara tree?

It's the season for the [Parapara Berry Tree](#), also known as the Birdcatcher Tree (sc. Pisonia brunoniana) - a threatened native tree whose seed pods are encased in a sticky coating which after flowering in autumn and winter, can glue to the feathers of passing birds.

Small birds can get stuck to the tree, whilst larger birds will fall to the ground disabled and get "lost" in the ground litter.

The seed pods also fall to the ground where blackbirds and thrushes become entangled in the.

Any bird caught up parapara leaves needs ...

Your FAQ's Answered

Thanks to YOU...!



Image: Current waterbird enclosure

In March this year, hundreds of bird lovers like yourself gave generously to our matched giving campaign.

Thanks to YOU, we raised over \$13,800 to build a dedicated, predator-free waterbird enclosure for our little blue penguins, to give them the best chance of survival in a stress free environment...

Find out more about our next steps

What's on?

Due to the overwhelming response to our **Frontline Responder Emergency Response Workshop**, new dates have been added - including one during the school holidays.

Learning to respond safely and humanely to wildlife emergencies, and key skills/techniques necessary to successfully care for wildlife in need.

[More details about the workshop](#)

Meet the team



Image: BirdCare Aotearoa staff

We are a very small team of dedicated full-time and part-time professionals including two qualified vets and a hospital assistant (downstairs); and an admin, volunteer, donor care and general manager (upstairs).

We rely heavily on our wonderful [volunteers](#), without which we simply could not provide the high standard of care to the 6000+ birds we receive throughout the year.

[Check our current opportunities to join our team here.](#)

Birds currently in care...

50

at BirdCare Aotearoa, Green Bay, Auckland



Image: One of two hawks in our care at the centre

302

Birds released
between 27/3/21 - 14/5/21

Native: 2 Welcome Swallows, 2 White-fronted Tern, 3 Banded Rails, 3 Black Petrels, 3 Southern black-backed Gulls, 4 Tui, 5 Morepork, 6 Pukeko, 7 Fantails, 9 Red-billed Gulls, 12 Kereru, 14 Silvereye, 1 NZ Dabchick, 1 Pied Shag, 1 Storm Petrel, 1 White-faced Heron, 73 Cook's Petrels, 18 Sacred

Kingfisher

Non-Native: 15 Sparrows, 25 Rock Pigeons, 2 Chickens, 2 Barbary Doves, 8 Blackbirds, 1 Quail, 1 Malagasy Turtle Dove, 1 Muscovy Duck, 8 Mallards, 6 Song Thrush

How you can help

We rely solely on the generosity of the community to help us care for the thousands of wild birds we receive each year that need life saving medical care and attention.

- \$20 provides care for a bird for 1 day
- \$50 gives oxygen support for critically injured birds
- \$100 provides pain relief and physiotherapy for 6 Kereru
- \$200 provides seabirds fresh fish for a month

Help care for the birds

Our wonderful partners

