



**WINGSPAN**  
NATIONAL BIRD OF PREY CENTRE

Registered Charitable Trust 1992

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**WINGSPAN**  
BIRDS OF PREY FOR OUR FUTURE



20th edition  
**WINGSPAN**  
\$8.00

**WINGSPAN**  
NATIONAL BIRD OF PREY CENTRE

Established for the research, captive management, rehabilitation, and public awareness of New Zealand birds of prey.

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# ON THE WING

URBAN RELEASE OF THE NEW ZEALAND FALCON



The first release of a threatened species in the centre of a New Zealand city was a brave conservation initiative. Wingspan has a proactive approach to the conservation of raptors, and the urban falcon release project 'On the Wing' now into its third year, has made conservation history!

The philosophy behind the project was to test various key objectives; just like the urban releases of peregrine falcons in the northern hemisphere. Could New Zealand falcons live in an urban environment? Could people tolerate and live alongside falcons?



Neil Hyde attaches a transmitter to Hine o te Rangi

Further, we needed to investigate the methodology of urban falcon reintroductions, increase exposure of falcons to a wider audience, and bring falcons into the everyday lives of New Zealanders.

Since 2013, the five-year program has included the release of seven young falcons from the roof

of the Rotorua Museum within the Government Gardens Rotorua. Made possible only through the support and partnership of the Rotorua Lakes Council, this innovative project has been coordinated by the staff and volunteers of both Wingspan and Rotorua Museum.

The method of the release is called 'hacking', which is basically an artificial nest site in the form of a hack box which the chicks imprint on. This provides shelter from the weather, and food dropped through a chute unseen by humans, is similar in principle to adult birds dropping off food items to the young chicks.

The young falcons have been bred from permanently injured or releasable adult falcons. The young birds were reared, banded, and each fitted with radio telemetry transmitters so their movements could be tracked.

While the data set is small, the results to date are encouraging. The Government Gardens on the edge of the central business district has shown that city living for falcons is possible, and the survivability of these birds to one year of age is better than what is found in the wild.



The 2015 release of two new falcon chicks marked the third consecutive release of the On the Wing programme.

One male and one female hatched in September at Wingspan, from falcon parents 'Lee' and 'Rita'. Their transfer to Rotorua Museum was marked by a formal welcome and blessing.

Each chick was banded, fitted with harness mounted transmitters, and formally named. Once more, names were chosen in respect of the local iwi Te Arawa. The male was called 'Ihenga' after the great Maori Chief and explorer (Ngati Whakaua), the female 'Hine o te Rangi' named after the famous Rotorua aviator Jean Batten (translated as daughter of the skies).

The hack box was opened in early October, and both falcons given their freedom, but this time, they spent much time on the roof of the Museum.



During the first week after release, we thought Ihenga was in trouble. Why was he hiding under the roof tiles of the historic building? The fire brigade were called with ladders, and wearing safety gear and hard hats, all for 250 grams of feathers. Just as they reached Ihenga, he flew from the building... phew!

Then it was Hine o te Rangi we were all worried about. She got herself into trouble too, but this time it was more serious. She went missing, and her signal was very hard to track around the roof of the building. Sadly, her body was later recovered from a drain. We were all very upset and she was the first of all of the young falcons not to make it to six months of age.

An unfortunate accident, and we can only assume she was fixated on prey, hunting starling chicks nesting in the roof cavity drain. What a beautiful falcon she was.



## New Zealand Falcons released 2013 - 2015



Tamara-te-Arapua

Named after the Captain of Te Arawa canoe



Hatupatu

A famous Te Arawa hunter and warrior



Te Rangai Rara i Waho

Named in honour of the late Maureen Waaka



Maia

A name meaning bold, courageous, capable and confident

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2013

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2014



Kurangaituku

Named after the bird-woman of Te Arawa legend



Ihenga

Named after the explorer and great Maori Chief (Ngati Whakaua) who named Rotorua



Hine-o-te-Rangi

"The daughter of the skies" celebrating the aviator Jean Batten, world famous pilot from the 1930s



Te Huatahi

OCTOBER 2015

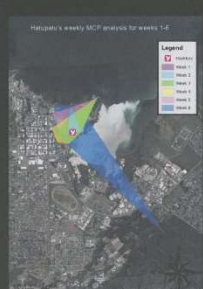
DECEMBER 2015

## On the Wing Legends

# CITIZEN SCIENCE

Citizen Science is defined as "scientific work undertaken by members of the general public, often in collaboration with, or under the direction of, professional scientists and scientific institutions".

## Bird's eye view



Spatial movement and dispersal of urban hacked and released N.Z. falcon

The On the Wing project has been driven by Wingspan and Rotorua Museum. A joint project not just about falcons, or a threatened species, it has also been about allowing direct community engagement with conservation, and restoring human relationships to nature.

For three years it's been a combined effort, but in particular it's been the volunteers who have made a difference. In capital terms, the project, without any direct funding from government or local bodies, has been in the thousands of dollars, rearing the birds, building a 'hack-box', purchasing telemetry equipment etc. But, if we were to add up all of the voluntary research hours and assign a basic hourly rate, the project would total in the hundreds of thousands. 'On the Wing' has been all about research, crowd sourcing, matched by crowd funding, and remains an amazing public conservation effort.

Wingspan pays special acknowledgement to all those involved to date. The iwi, the volunteers, the researchers, the 'kids', the Rotorua Fire Brigade, and closer to home, Black Stallion Photography who donated images for a special 2016 'On the Wing' calendar, and raised more than \$5000.

The increase of citizen science around the world is increasing, and in this instance volunteers tracking and recording falcon information, and engaging them in authentic science and conservation programmes, we can increase our ability to understand and respond to the needs of this project, and new ones into the future.

The numbers of people, everyday people, involved with On the Wing has been inspiring.

In early 2016, a research report by Jane Bowen (McCauley) was completed as part of her Masters of Environmental Management, through Massey University in Palmerston North.

Using the volunteer data, the daily logging and tracking using radio telemetry, Jane was able to publish a detailed study on spatial movement and dispersal of the urban hack released falcons.

This research has shown the urban falcons dispersed in the range seen in wild New Zealand falcons, but also concluded the survivability of the young hacked falcons in their first year, has been better than in the wild.

## Conservation History

### Te Huatahi – the first born

Within three days of Maia and Kurangaituku being released in 2014, Hatupatu was inseparable from them. Very attentive, he would often be seen with the two young females, hunting for them, and protecting them. But, we always thought (and hoped) that Hatupatu had ulterior motives!

In October of 2015, we started fielding reports of falcons being seen from the general public on the outskirts of Rotorua, in particular behind the popular Redwood Grove, within the Whakarewarewa Forest.

Then over the following month, the reports became more numerous, and the sightings notched up another level when more aggressive dive-bombing by the falcons was noted. More reports were received from recreational users of the forest including mountain bikers, people walking their dogs, or riding their horses.

Following these reports, Hatupatu and Maia were found to be nesting in a pine forest cove.

In terms of their nest selection, what a view! So perfect it could have been listed by a real estate agent just for falcons! Location, location indeed! The ground nest was northily facing, 180 views of Lake Rotorua and Mokoia Island from sunrise to sunset, in a pine forest cove, and close to all amenities!

A trail cam was installed so we could monitor the nest. Volunteer Pally Shepherd was also closely monitoring their every move, signage was erected to warn recreational users about the nesting falcons, and Timberrlands postponed contract forestry work due in the area.

In mid-November, Maia, at less than one year of age and one of the youngest females to have ever been known

to breed in the wild, hatched one little, 18 gram, male karoroa, much to the delight of everyone involved.

Staff and volunteers continued to monitor the chick until he fledged. The parents, Hatupatu and Maia travelled daily to Rotorua Museum for supplementary food.

The first urban release of a threatened species in New Zealand endorsed by the first successful breeding in the wild.

### Welcome to the forest, welcome to the world, Te Huatahi!



The trail cam records Te Huatahi at 10 days old (with Hatupatu) and 30 days old, almost ready to fly.



Slave Lamerica, Neil Cook, Debbie Stewart, handling Te Huatahi while Maia is overcast.



Wingspan Staff rates key research volunteers Pally Shepherd, Slave Lamerica, and Jane Bowen.



The Rotorua Museum, in association with Wingspan, was granted funding from the 'Unlocking Curious Minds' initiative (Ministry of Science and Technology) to carry out science workshops under the umbrella of the 'Under the Wing' project.

The aim of the workshops was to inspire and encourage children to consider science as a viable and achievable career option as they start to be given the responsibility of choosing their subjects at school.



During the October school holidays of 2016, children from schools across the Bay of Plenty were invited to participate in a three-day science workshop held at the Government Gardens.

Two workshops were held, and each accommodated 30 young students between the ages of 10-14 years.



Over the first two days the children explored the topics of geothermal activity, water quality, geology and chemistry with fun, interactive activities both in the museum classroom and around the museum grounds.

On the third day the children spent the day with Wingspan staff learning about anatomy and feather function, egg and chick development, flight, and raptor conservation.

They carried out various activities including pellet dissection, and using tracking gear to locate hidden koha (falcon) toys around the garden area.

During the workshops students were exposed to and engaged in, a range of science activities including:

- environment exploration, water testing, bird classification, pellet dissection, physics of flight, an experiment to make carbon dioxide, and more.
- An unexpected bonus for the workshops was an early hatching of a clutch of falcon chicks that coincided with the workshop dates. This meant that students were able to become involved in the daily feeding of the two chicks; use radio telemetry to track falcons, and use observation to identify previous years' releases.
- Technology learning, including the use of microscopes and use of radiotelemetry for environmental tracking purposes
- Talks from expert scientists including a pilot, a Department of Conservation ranger, a hydrologist/environmentalist, three raptor experts and a well-known celebrity scientist and environmentalist.

To end the three day workshops, Wingspan staff and students travelled by bus and headed out to visit the Wingspan Centre where they watched the 2pm flying display and were given the chance to hold a falcon.

Following this close-up encounter, the students then experienced a formal ceremony where each student was congratulated by Museum and Wingspan staff, presented with a personalised certificate and take home pack, each recognized as 'Raptor Recruits', and reminded of the value their experience can play when seeking future work in this field.



The students carried out various tasks including pellet dissection



Whanau Day

The celebrity guest scientist for this event was our very own Wingspan Patron, Environmental scientist and passionate 'bugman', none other than the famous Dr Ruud Klempaste.

Attracting almost 500 participants - Grandies, Dads, Mums and Kids, the scheduled events included:

- Two guided walks with Museum volunteers, exploring the history and what lives and grows in the unique geothermal environment of Rotorua Museum and Government Gardens.
- Two talks/live karearea displays in the Museum classroom with Debbie Stewart and 'Mojo'.
- Bring a bug identification talk with Dr Ruud Klempaste.
- A special bug display by entomologist Bryce McDoulan.

- Talk in the Museum classroom: Ryan Thomas, Air New Zealand pilot and Wingspan member, on the mechanics of flight and how airplanes fly like birds.
- Exploring Government Gardens with Dr Klempaste, finding bugs, birds and more.
- Events and activities were supported by a number of Museum staff and volunteers.

In addition to the scheduled events, all-day activities included activity trails, face painting, paper plane and helicopter crafts, paper plane flight distance competition, water pH level and clarity testing, radio telemetry tracking and displays by the Department of Conservation, Forest & Bird Society, Rotorua District Library and Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre.

Children were awarded spot prizes for: dressing up as their favourite bug, bird or scientist; their involvement in telemetry tracking and paper plane flight.



photograph by Julie Parsons

# Project Eyass



The New Zealand falcon *karearea* and the Mongolian Saker falcon might be separated by more than 12,000 km, but they have much in common. These raptors are endemic to each country, both are threatened species and with fewer than 10,000 left of either species remaining in the wild.

The world just got smaller for one class at Kaitao Middle School - "The Adventure Academy".

Wingspan and Kaitao Middle School's 'Adventure Academy' have teamed up to trial a new year-long education programme called 'Project Eyass'.

Within the framework of the programme, the class has been linked with a school in Mongolia through the Mongolian Saker Falcon Project (by International Wildlife Consultants, U.K.).

From New Zealand to Mongolia, the Kaitao class in Rotorua is connecting with school children at Bayanmunkh Soum, in the Khenitli Province. The falcons are the common thread: the conduit for conservation learning between two countries and two school classes. But on an education front they share lifestyles, age, and celebrate stories around language, history and culture.

The classes communicate via pen pal letters, video and live chat on a private facebook page. Both classes and the

Wingspan team are extremely excited by the programme. What a great way to learn about the world and diversity of culture, conservation and biodiversity.

The programme aims to inspire and encourage children to think big picture: in terms of the world around them and about ways they can positively contribute to that picture through conservation.



Mongolian Saker Project with Bayan School.



photograph by Debbie Stewart

## COMMENTS FROM KAITAO STUDENTS

LEO: We have learned they are nomadic and didn't stay in one place and moved around.

ZION: I like writing to his pen pal called Oyuntukhador

TERENOAH: The Mongolian falcon live in a pen (sport) made of animal skin



SAMUEL: They use eagles for hunting and to catch foxes and sometimes deer.

**STUDENTS LETTERS FROM BAYANMUNKH SOUM**

**Aitanbold:**  
We were happy to be in your class. Mongolia has many animals and many landscapes. Mongolia has a season which is Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter season. My favorite season is Summer. Many children of raptors live in dormitory. This summer I will go to my home. Mongolian people to celebrate a big festival such as Tsagaan Sar, New Year, Naadam, Tsagaan Sar and others in Mongolian national holiday.

**Khalin:** I'm introducing about one of the biggest holiday is Tsagaan Sar. Every year to you. The festival of the year New Year, Tsagaan Sar, is celebrated in or around February depending on the Mongolian lunar calendar. Spring New Year's Day that the children have their usual relatives. They start with their parents and then following the rules of genealogy seniority the other relatives, traditionally.

**Shinelselseg:** I live with my mother. I like to play volleyball and handicrafts for my free time. My favorite color and season are pink and mathematics as well English.

**Nyamsuren:** We are herder family. My parents tend to the animals and living in the countryside. But I live in school dormitory. In the holiday I can go to my home and to help for my parents.

**Samuel:** I'm introducing about one of the biggest holiday is Tsagaan Sar. Every year to you. The festival of the year New Year, Tsagaan Sar, is celebrated in or around February depending on the Mongolian lunar calendar. Spring New Year's Day that the children have their usual relatives. They start with their parents and then following the rules of genealogy seniority the other relatives, traditionally.



Kaitao's Maudhlogee When Bayan visits Kaitao and Kaitao visits Bayan, blending who and get, food and Akorkhu, kotovak and deer. Indeed a fabulous duo!! Debbie Stewart

## RAPTOR RECRUITS

Visit Wingspan and become a Raptor Recruit today. Collect clues, solve puzzles and go on a scavenger hunt to get your official Raptor Recruits badge!

Join the team of raptor special agents and write to us or send us a picture to show how you are helping New Zealand birds of prey! You can even win a great prize!

Booklets available for ages 5-8yrs and 9-12yrs. Available in our gift shop or by phone order.





## First Wild Australian Barn Owls banded in New Zealand

by Noel Hyde

Barn owls are very widespread and found on every continent except Antarctica. The discovery of a breeding pair of barn owls in Northland in 2008 lifted this bird's status in New Zealand, from vagrant, to coloniser, to native. They are a rather benign species and appear to coexist alongside moreorks in Northland just as they do in Australia, where the moreork is known as Boobook. Barn owls are also more rodent orientated in their diet than moreorks, and do not penetrate deeply into native forest, preferring more open woodland with grass understorey as well as open grassland farmland.

The recovery of a young injured barn owl on the outskirts of Kaitiaki in 2008, and its subsequent transfer to Wingspan, (see Wingspan Journal 2008, New Zealand's newest native species), initiated a monitoring program at a nesting pair in the area. This led to a published paper, Hyde, N; Matthews, K; Thompson, M; Gale, R; 2009, First record of barn owls *Tyto alba* breeding in the wild in New Zealand. *Notornis* 56(4): 169-175.

Over subsequent years Wingspan has strategically placed thirteen nest/roost boxes in the greater Kaitiaki area for the birds should they choose to use them, and in April 2015 two remote trail cameras were mounted near the nest tree. These have been providing an interesting insight into the comings and goings of the resident birds: the adults and their chicks.

On a calm, starlit evening in June 2015, Wingspan Board members Noel Hyde and Chris Gay became the first people to trap and band wild barn owls in New Zealand. This banding will enable the owls to be identified individually, and allow more informed research into their behaviour and biology. Both the male and female were caught

respectively, with each banded, weighed, measured, a feather sample (for DNA) taken, and then photographed prior to their release.

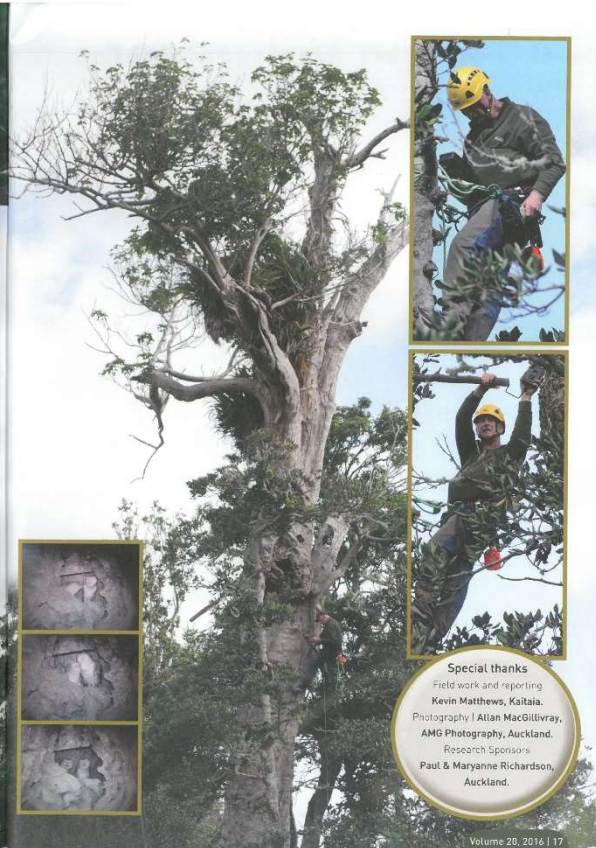
Since their discovery in Northland, Wingspan has been collecting a database of Barn owl sightings to try to get an understanding of their distribution. This will be greatly enhanced with acoustic broadcast surveys with help from Frederik van Gessel, the President of the Australian Wildlife Sound Recording Group. From the few reports received so far, it appears they are mainly found from the Hunua Ranges to Northland, but over the last few years sightings have been from as far away as East Cape and Faraparaumu.

Barn owls make a peculiar call that could be mistaken for a possum, it is a drawn out 'Shssssssssss' often repeated every few seconds, definitely something to listen out for on quiet evenings, especially for those living near the Hunua, Auckland, and Northland. If you think you've heard or seen barn owls, Wingspan would love to hear from you.

Noel Hyde



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**Special thanks**  
Field work and reporting  
Kevin Matthews, Kaitiaki.  
Photography | Allan MacGillivray,  
AMG Photography, Auckland.  
Research Sponsors  
Paul & Maryanne Richardson,  
Auckland.

## A Falcon Volunteer ... in Seventh Heaven

Photos and story by Betty Shepherd

It was mid-winter, July 2015 when I received news from the local mountain biking fraternity that a falcon had been spotted in a cutover area of Hill Road in the Whakarewarewa Forest.

After countless visits to the site, I finally was greeted by a flock of not only one, but two birds! These were identified as Hatupatu and Maia and were from the 'On the Wing' programme, the first over city release of a threatened species by Wingspan in partnership with the Rotorua Lakes Council in the Government Gardens.

For weeks I watched but they were transient and for days they seemed to disappear. Finally I tracked them down to a neighbouring farm. My big concern was the owner had free range chooks roaming the fields so I had to do a bit of PR work to convince them they would probably set up home in the forest cutover rather than the farm. Thankfully they did and without any casualties.



About this time, Wingspan offered me a position as a Research Volunteer as along with Timberlands, provided me with a vehicle permit to make life a bit easier to monitor them. I couldn't think of a better way of spending the summer and it was such a privilege to be involved and relay back findings to the Wingspan team.

My days involved observing the pairs behaviours, from courtship, mating, incubation, and finally watching the young chick grow and develop. My observation site was approximately 200 metres distance from the nest site and I was located high above them with a wonderful view of the entire basin.



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Robyn and Son



Rebecca Mac

Both Hatupatu and Maia became familiar with my vehicle and often they would come and greet me with a fly past or even better, stop for a photo shoot. They were fine with walkers and mountain bikers, but had very little tolerance for dogs. Signs were placed warning people of the risk of attack or disturbing the nesting birds, but generally the public were very aware and engaged, taking a huge interest in what was unravelling in their exercise area.

*"I couldn't think of a better way of spending the summer and it was such a privilege to be involved and relay back findings to the Wingspan team."*

By December, another report was received that falcons were attacking walkers and horse riders just above Nursery Hill in the Redwoods. An unknown, untagged wild pair of falcons had a nest site approximately 50 metres from a main track. The team from Wingspan arrived and were delighted to find three healthy chicks about the same age as the Hill Road chick.

The male in this family group was quite amazing. He successfully hunted and provided food for three voracious chicks until they departed from the nest. In between his exhaustive quest for food supplies, he would arrive back and take a swipe at anyone in the vicinity; you could never let your guard down, he would attack from any direction, back of the head, front on and he really meant business! The female however was quite different, she was a lot more laid back and nowhere near as aggressive. Often she would just observe those passing by without the warning swoops. It was so interesting to witness the different temperaments displayed by these birds.

Now leading into the end of the autumn, I am pleased to report that there are still sightings of falcons in both nesting areas of the forest, and observations will continue over the winter months.



Nursery Road female delivering food to her brood



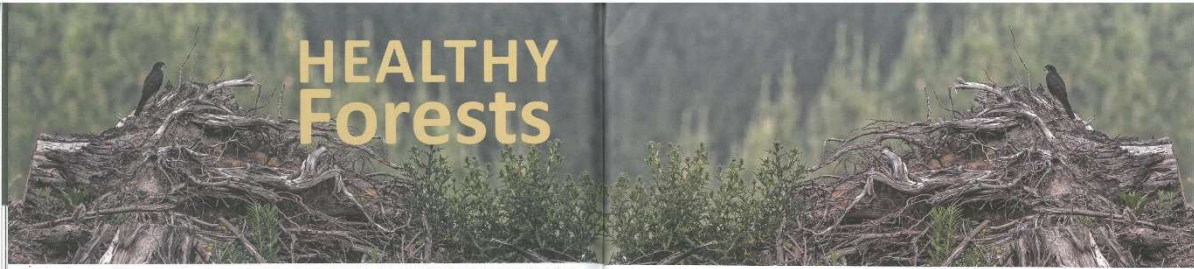
Nursery Road male and female chicks



Hill Road juvenile having a chat

We live in hope that the welcome sound of kek-kekking within the Whakarewarewa Forest will become a regular occurrence. After this year's exciting and successful breeding programme in the wild, it seems like we are well on track.

Betty Shepherd



# HEALTHY Forests

The discovery of falcons breeding in pine plantations has had significant implications for the conservation of this spectacular species. Plantation foresters that manage their estates to benefit biodiversity, especially threatened species like the falcon, stand to gain by meeting Forest Stewardship Certification requirements and by reinforcing their public image as responsible environmental stewards. FSC remains a broadly-scoped, internationally-recognised hallmark of responsible forest management.

Wingspan has continued research monitoring, and reporting the benefits to karearea living within pine plantations for some 25 years. Indeed, the pine plantation research, particularly within the Kaingaroa forest, remains one of the longest annual monitoring programmes of a threatened species in New Zealand.

In celebrating these efforts, Wingspan has become more proactive around this research, and linking this more actively with trees and coveur habitat, through to end paper products.

The work is important. New Zealand falcons as birds of prey (and apex predators) are considered to be the barometers of the environment, and it is pine forests more than any other habitat where there are direct links.

Wingspan recognises the biodiversity values of pine plantations as sustainable habitats for karearea, and in turn provide further endorsement of FSC products for national and international markets. Unique partnerships where commercial interests continue to complement conservation efforts.

"Healthy forests, healthy falcons and healthy people.

Kei te ora nga karearea,  
kei te ora tatou katoa."

Thank You!



- Kaingaroa Timberlands**
  - for significant sponsorship supporting ongoing forest monitoring, and towards the new Wingspan Centre.
- Hikurangi Forest Farms**
  - Life members of Wingspan
- P.F. Olsen Ltd**
  - Falcon sighting reports | Donation Support
- Eastland Group, Gisborne**
  - Donation Support
- Te Uranga B2, Taumarunui**
  - Donation Support
- Hancock Forest Management (NZ)**
  - Falcon sighting reports
- New Zealand Forest Owners Association (NZFOA) and NZ Wood**
  - celebrating new alliances with Wingspan, including falcon sighting reports, and display support for Wingspan at the Mystery Creek Field Days, Hamilton 2016

It's a tough business being a Karearea chick, when only 25% live past one year of age. But the chicks' tricky pathway from hatching in the wild, to learning to fly, to hunting for food is set to improve with new support coming from New Zealand's most popular brand of tissues.



Celebrating 25 years in New Zealand, Kleenex® Tissues have teamed up with Wingspan to bolster conservation efforts to save New Zealand falcons.

Support for Karearea, whose highest population density occurs in commercial pine plantations – in particular the Kaingaroa Forest – comes from forestry companies and from Kleenex® Tissues, led by Kimberly Clark New Zealand, as part of their combined commitment to the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certification.

Kleenex® Tissues are helping New Zealand Falcon chicks on three fronts: they have invested in new incubation equipment at the Wingspan Centre; they are committed to using only FSC-certified or FSC-controlled pine, including some grown in the Kaingaroa Forest; and they have also provided a new SneezeSafe® Healthy Forests lesson plan designed by Kiwi teachers and free for schools to download at [www.sneeze-safe.co.nz](http://www.sneeze-safe.co.nz)



The new Healthy Forests lesson aims to help children understand the importance for New Zealand of keeping pine forests healthy, which in turn helps look after threatened Karearea.



It also encourages children to get involved by learning to identify the bird and report sightings.



THE PURPOSE

## Falcon Sightings

Falcon sightings are reported to Wingspan throughout the year, with the most common reports occurring during the spring when the falcons are nesting, and the autumn when juveniles are wandering. Sightings of falcons are reported by recreational hunters and trappers, landowners, or from forest estate managers and contractors, such as Kaingaroa Timberlands and P.F. Olsen Ltd. Some falcons are even spotted in the back yard! But occasionally we receive correspondence a little more out of the ordinary, or about other birds of prey seen in New Zealand.

Help us understand more about these wonderful birds and report any New Zealand falcons you see by sending an email to [wingspan.nz@gmail.com](mailto:wingspan.nz@gmail.com)

The required details include date observed, location (from Google Maps), number of birds seen, and a description of the activity observed.

Wingspan would like to acknowledge the mapping provided by Canmap Hawley, and AMG Web Designers for the website update.

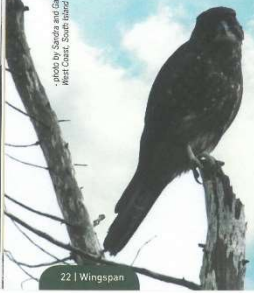


Wild juvenile falcon, Southland. - Ken Johnston

It sure was a buzz to see the karearea in the wild! I had my back to the road when I heard a commotion and turned around in time to see two birds trying to get rid of each other. Meanwhile their lunch flew away!  
Linda Johnson – 25 March 2016 Hastings

It was pretty special seeing the Falcon. A real treat! It is good to know that they are doing okay around Wellington.  
Ruth – 29 March 2016 Wellington

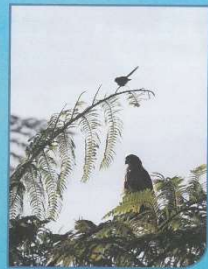
Photo by Stella and Owen Gibbons, West Coast, South Island



Hey! Just heard then spotted a New Zealand Falcon flying around at the end of Pohutukawa Drive here in Rotorua.  
Absolutely awesome to be able to watch one from my back door.  
Keep up the great work!  
Bert Robinson – 27 May 2016 Rotorua



Falcon sighting, Bay of Plenty - Jeanette Nee



The Falcon and the Parrot - Jeanette Nee

Had a neat experience watching a New Zealand Bush Falcon chasing a pigeon around our house and trees this afternoon while I was mowing the lawns. Amazing to see this rare bird around here.  
Lawson Campbell – 12 August 2015 Masterton



Hikurangi - wild juvenile male falcon in Southland. - Ken Johnston

I had an amazing experience yesterday morning in my small back yard. A New Zealand falcon came whizzing past me, carrying a (non-native) pigeon.  
Deirdre Wigan – 19 September 2015 Wellington



Kamarewa - R. Alders



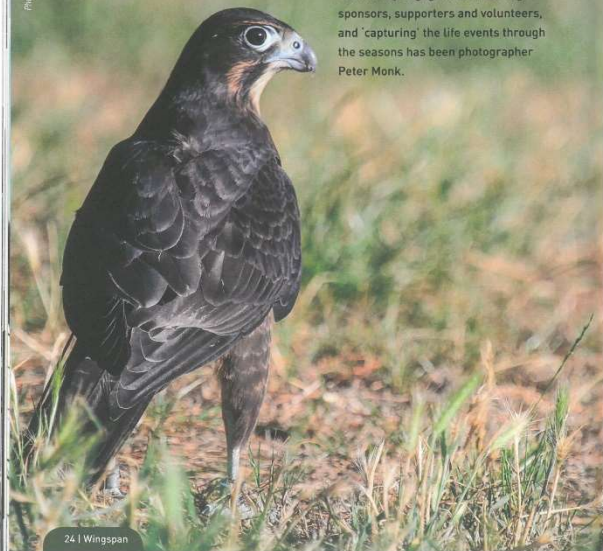
Wild falcon on power pole, Marlborough Sounds. - Albert Nisbet

# Wairarapa Falcons

Photography by Peter Monk

Now in its second year, organiser and 'falcon mum' Jane Lenting, has been the driving force behind the Wairarapa falcon release project. Vineyards within Martinborough now play home to a total of six captive bred falcons that have made the journey from Wingspan to the Wairarapa.

Such a project does not happen without community engagement including sponsors, supporters and volunteers, and 'capturing' the life events through the seasons has been photographer Peter Monk.



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In 2014, the first three Karearea chicks were released from a hatch box situated on Te Muna Road, Martinborough; these birds included two female chicks, named 'Honour', and 'Irahora' with their brother 'Pari'. In April 2015, a more mature one year old falcon, 'Queen' (land uncle of the three, also hatched and raised at the Wingspan central, was released close by.

Just six months ago, another three Wingspan falcon chicks (two females and one male from parents 'R202' and 'Julz') were banded and had radio transmitters attached, then took flight for the very first time, indeed as cabin baggage on their way to Wellington Airport.

Once they landed safely it was a skip and a jump to their new home on the Clouston Vineyard, where they were blessed in front of an excited crowd of falcon fans, ready to see the cute handouts of fluff transferred to their new home.

The choice to locate the hatch box on this particular block was very much a deliberate one, with at least eight other options explored, but deemed unsuitable. While this particular site is easier for public to access and closer to the main village, there are many more benefits.

Jane says that "Palisier staff are really keen, Honour and Pari like to hunt there, and there are plenty of people looking out for the birds."

Jane also said that "being close to the village means there are more ears and eyes and more reporting".

The young falcons remained in their hatch box for a further two weeks, growing their adult plumage and practising their flying.



Then, on December 17th 2015, the hatch box door was slowly opened, and all of a sudden the big wide world was at their feet.



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Photography by Peter Monk



Over the following months the chicks were closely monitored and their different personalities and temperaments started to become more evident.



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On January 10th in a Facebook post Jane said "our three juveniles are flying fast, diving for things on the ground and generally getting around the surrounding properties. The sparrows which used to roost in the macrocarpas near the hatch box, have decamped and moved to the neighbour's place".

*"The project plans are to release up to ten falcons in the Martinborough region."*

Later in the season, the word around town was that the starting flocks that would usually number in their

thousands looked smaller, olive crops at harvest time had less crop damage from small birds, and there were fewer blackbirds than normal around the shelter belts.

The dedication and enthusiasm of volunteers is key to ensuring the success of a conservation programme like this.

Another significant part is the contribution of local organisations within Martinborough, including Wairarapa Winegrowers as major sponsors of the 2016 release, and Palisier Estate Wines as the major sponsor of this year's release.

The project plans are to release up to ten falcons in the Martinborough region, in the hopes that a breeding pair might establish, and a new wild population of the endemic Karearea may flourish.



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# 'It's a Circus'

## Nga Kahu, the Australasian Harrier, Circus approximans

In early summer, a young male hawk chick arrived at Wingspan, rescued from a hay paddock in the Whakatane region.

Tai (friend - Maori translation) had a rough start out in life. Far too young to be alone in the world, soft and fluffy down feathers still attached. Large stress bars on his

tail feathers suggested a shortage of food right at a time when he needed plenty!

After some care from the Wingspan team, Tai is now in very good health and is undertaking a training programme to prepare him for re-release back out into the wild.



Photography by Jeanette Nece

Just one short week after the arrival of Tai, the hawk scales were tipped to a balance, with the introduction of Indiana - a young female hawk. She was discovered in Te Puke on a kowhai orchard, with similar circumstances to Tai. Hungry and alone, Indiana came to Wingspan and was fed up to a nice healthy and heavy weight.

No doubt feeling much better about things already, the journey then really started for young India. At that stage, the Wingspan team were unsure if she was ever able to fly, so she began a training programme that would put this to the test.

First her trust was gained. This was a slow but very rewarding process. India steadily progressed further with each day. A 30cm jump to the glove one week transformed to a 13 metre flight on the creance (a long secure line for

flight training) the next. Very shortly after that, she was free flying. And Indiana could fly. She could fly very well indeed. Taken out daily and snaring the Wingspan skies, she explored her surroundings and imprinted on the area, she displayed every capability one could wish for.

Stage two for Indiana was spending time in Wingspan's hawk aviary - socializing around her own kind. Excelling in all aspects of her rehabilitation Wingspan is excited to announce her re-release into the wild. A smooth transition with the team providing an abundance of food on a daily basis to help her start her life out in the wild again. Keep an eye out for her - she will be the one enjoying her new life to the maximum.

Heidi Stook

To further complement the hawk 'collection', in mid-January the arrival of three cute and fluffy hawk chicks were found in the Humeo Ranges and brought in by the owners of the property. After some initial TLC onsite, they were then relocated to the neighbour's enclosed 'raspberry patch', making for a unique hawk release site. In particular we acknowledge Art and Lois Morris, Rotorua for providing the three eyasses their temporary nest site.



The chicks spent the next couple of weeks growing and familiarising themselves with the surrounding area, in the hope that they'd call it home, which indeed they have. They are now regularly seen soaring high above our Wingspan sky doing very well for themselves. Pop in sometime soon and see if you can spot them for yourself!



Photography by Jeanette Nece

### Eyes like a hawk . . . through the camera lens

Wingspan member Jeanette Nece, of Tauranga has been taking a real interest in wild hawks over farmland.

Setting up a feeding table, and leaving food out for the wild birds, Jeanette has enjoyed close up and personal experiences.

# GETTING ZAPPED

Electrocution has proven to be a significant impact on the survival of New Zealand falcon particularly in the Marlborough region, and is likely a factor that limits populations of this threatened species nationwide. The risk is especially high in open areas where power poles provide the most convenient perching opportunity in the landscape.

If efforts to conserve this spectacular, yet threatened species are to be successful, it is imperative that this hazard is addressed nationwide.

### How Falcons Are Electrocutted?

Low voltage distribution lines (as opposed to high voltage transmission lines) electrocute and kill New Zealand falcons when a bird bridges the gap between two live wires, or between a live wire and a grounded structure, and creates a short circuit. There are two primary situations in which electrocution occurs.

- When a bird perches on an un-insulated transformer box and bridges the live wires coming out of the top of the box
- When a bird perches on a crossarm that is grounded and made of conductive materials including wet wood and bridges the gap between the crossarm and any live wires.

### Phasing Out Electrocution

Wingspan recommends the electrocution hazard be phased out by concentrating efforts into retrofitting transformer boxes in high risk areas during routine line

maintenance operations, and only erecting safe power pole and transformer box designs from this point on. This approach provides a pragmatic method to addressing the issue of electrocution, acknowledging that the issue cannot be addressed immediately but ensuring that the highest priority risk is addressed in the short term and the hazard removed entirely in the long term.

### What Wingspan is doing?

Wingspan is actively working towards reducing the hazard posed by power poles and transformer boxes to New Zealand falcon by seeking collaborative partnerships with the electricity distribution industry.

Through partnerships Wingspan is advocating for:

- the development of power pole and transformer designs that avoid the electrocution of falcons.
- the identification and mapping of high risk areas
- the implementation of best-practice standards that avoid the risk of electrocution without compromising electricity distribution needs.

A problem power pole, and responsible for the electrocution of at least two New Zealand falcons.

This has pole has since been replaced by power company 'Marlborough Lines' in Seddon, thanks to the generosity of local winemakers Peter Yealands and Erica Crawford, Lovelock Wines.



Photography by John Fletcher



### Take Home messages!

Birds of prey are considered barometers or bio-indicators of the health of the environment. Help raptors land other birds of prey around home!

### Away from home

Celebrate New Zealand's biodiversity, be a Raptor Recruit! Let others know about birds of prey.

Consider school projects on the environment and the role of raptors within it.

Tell people not to shoot them or harm birds of prey.

If you find an injured bird, carefully cover it with a towel or similar, and place in a cardboard box (not a wire cage). Ring Wingspan!

### On your way home

Remove road kills (possums, rabbits) from the road (but park in a safe place!).

Get to know the wildlife around you. Count them, name them, and if you see a falcon, note its location and report to Wingspan.

Contact Wingspan if you find a dead bird of prey: falcon, hawk, morepork owl, Barn owl, kestrel, or kite. Note location, check for bands around its legs.

### Around the home

Reduce introduced predators and pests by trapping. Rat and mousetraps are great, but if you're using rodenticides, check the labels and select those products that do not cause secondary poisoning.

Place a few solar lights in the garden, they last great, or leave an outside light on for a couple of hours each night, especially during the warmer springtime months to attract moths for ruru morepork owls.

Build a weta hotel!

Build a ruru morepork breeding box.

Plant trees like Puriri and Ngaio that when mature will attract Puriri moths and wetas to provide food for ruru.

Build a feeding platform for wild hawks to take food from.

On lifestyle blocks protect and enhance wetlands to provide foraging and nesting habitat for hawks.

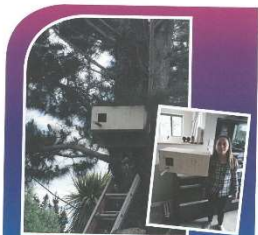
Let your neighbours know when there are birds breeding - share the wildlife stories.

Help fundraising for Wingspan! Baking cookies works a treat!

### Inside home

Bird window strike is common, and often it is by birds that usually live (and fly) within the forest canopy. If you have windows opposite one another, birds think they can fly 'through'. Use curtains on one set of windows or purchase UV deflectors.

Be responsible cat owners, and keep your pet cats inside at night.



Above: Mahalia and the family made a ruru breeding box for their backyard moreporks.

Left: Ella and Theo from Auckland. They make and sell cookies for Wingspan's falcons!



# OSPREYS IN OZ

## - an unusual raptor

Photos and story by Suzi Phillips

The Osprey is one raptor you are highly unlikely to see in New Zealand - not one vagrant record or sighting exists. Despite that, it's an interesting bird to observe overseas, not least because it's an unusual raptor with a widespread global distribution.

A flight across the ditch to coastal Australia will get you into Osprey territory and if you are looking for a handy hotspot, the New South Wales coast is a good place to start.

The Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*, is the sole member of the family of Pandionidae and differs in several ways from other diurnal raptors.

For a start, its toes are of equal length, its tarsi are reticulate, and its talons are rounded, rather than grooved.

The Osprey and owls are the only raptors whose outer toe is reversible which enables it to grasp prey with two toes in front and two behind - great for grabbing slippery fish.

Osprey are also called fish eagle, sea hawk, river hawk, and fish hawk and are a medium sized bird measuring about 60 cm long with a 180 cm wingspan. They are brown on the upper parts and predominantly grey to white on the head and under parts - depending on age and species.

Ospreys nest near water for an adequate fish supply and are found on all continents except Antarctica, although in South America it occurs only as a non-breeding migrant.

Three subspecies of *Pandion haliaetus* are recognized and a fourth has recently gained full species status - the Eastern Osprey, restricted to coastline and large rivers in Australia and Tasmania.



The Australian or Eastern Osprey (*P. cristatus*) is the smallest and most distinctive of Osprey, and like the subspecies from the Caribbean islands, it is non-migratory.

- *P. h. haliaetus* (Linnaeus, 1758): Palearctic. Nominative species.
- *P. h. carolinensis* (Melville, 1988): North America.
- *P. h. ridgwayi* (Maynard, 1867): Caribbean islands.
- *P. cristatus* (Mieville, 1866): Australia and Tasmania.

In April this year, we met a leading Osprey scientist, Dr Richard (aka Rob) Bierregaard, who has spent more than 30 years researching and tracking Osprey in the Americas with the emphasis on migration, population trends and ecology.

*He says some juvenile Osprey left Cape Cod and flew straight south across the Atlantic for more than a 1000 miles without stopping - over 50 hours of flying.*

Rob pioneered satellite telemetry tracking of Osprey and has helped to refine techniques for catching, fitting transmitters and tracking Osprey over vast distances in the Americas with typical migratory patterns from North to South America in autumn and returning in spring.

There are two excellent online resources for reading about Rob's work including Ospreytrax.com that includes interactive migration maps for recent years, and the Ospreytrax Facebook page that includes up-to-date tracking events as Osprey leave their seasonal territories and migrate north or south.

Rob and his wife Cath were visiting Australia and stopped briefly at Kingscliff in New South Wales to meet Tweed Valley Osprey Monitoring Group leader, Faye Hill.

Faye has 21 years of monitoring data from the 26 nest sites that the Tweed Ospreys have used over the years, monitored by a dedicated group of volunteer bird watchers.

We met up mid-afternoon and had a few hours to show them some of the obliging resident Osprey who nest



Two adult Ospreys on a nest platform at Hastings Point.



Juvenile Osprey at Kingscliff eating fresh fish.



Rob Bierregaard taking photos at Kingscliff.

mainly on man-made platforms and towers along this coast. (All but three tree nests in the Tweed region have disappeared over the years due to coastal development, weather events, and natural attrition.)

Over a late lunch, Rob described how adult Ospreys from the Cape Cod area close to Boston, go west first, then

south to Florida, to Cuba, to Hispaniola, Haiti, Dominican Republic, and then a 400 mile crossing to the Caribbean. The satellite telemetry shows they travel at about 25 mph, for 16 hours or so.

He says some juvenile Osprey left Cape Cod and flew straight south across the Atlantic for more than a 1000 miles without stopping - over 50 hours of flying.

Some stop occasionally on ships for a break if they can. One they tracked got lost in a storm and stopped on three different ships going in the wrong direction and ended up disappearing somewhere closer to Portugal than to the US, says Rob.



We did well in the short time we had with Rob and Cath to show them six Osprey, three at Kingscliff on the coast, one further south on a cradle platform above Cudgen Creek, and a pair of adults on crossbars at Hastings Point where the Cudgen River flows close to the coast.

To see so many in a short time was good considering it was outside the nesting season and hopefully bodes well for the future breeding success of the Tweed Ospreys.

Suzi Phillips

# IN the AIR

Wingspan falcons and a few Texans have been let into the Royal New Zealand Air Force!

The Wingspan Centre was delighted to host the Chief of New Zealand Airforce Mike Yardley and his assistant, Squadron Leader Cameron Brownlee.

Formally welcoming Chief Yardley were representatives from the Bay of Plenty Air Cadets who travelled far afield from Rotorua, Tauranga and Whakaitane.

Following a formal parade on his arrival, the Chief completed an inspection, thanked them for their participation, congratulated them on their turnout, and then spoke to the cadets individually.



The 'surprise' event marked a formal announcement from the Royal Air Force, naming the new display squadron fleet THE BLACK FALCONS in support of the karearea falcons at Wingspan.



The new airforce fleet will include 11 T6 Texans, that will be used to take trainee pilots through to getting their 'wings'. The synergy between the Air Force and the New Zealand's fastest bird, the falcon, karearea is an obvious one. Celebrating flight, the 'Black Falcons' will be used as the official RNZAF formation aerobatic team, and will be seen at upcoming events, including Warbirds' air show demonstrations in the skies above Wairoa and Martinborough in 2017.



# ON the MONEY

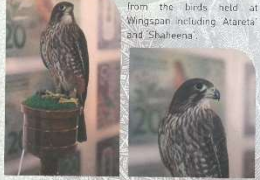
Over the past year, the Reserve Bank has upgraded New Zealand's banknotes, distributing the new series of the \$5, and \$10 notes from October 2015, followed by the \$20, \$50, and \$100 in May 2016. All the new (Series 7) banknotes incorporate the same four main security features, which includes holographic window, colour-changing bird, puzzle number and raised ink.

The New Zealand Reserve Bank Governor Graeme Wheeler said that the innovations in the banknotes and their ability to include sophisticated anti-counterfeiting technology are notable.

"Global banknote technology has advanced to a stage where sophisticated design is incorporated into a security feature to make the banknote both hard to counterfeit and visually appealing," he said.

The banknotes are brighter, bolder, and clearer, the themes of the notes remain the same, with respected New Zealanders, the Queen and flora and fauna remaining central to the designs.

Without question, Wingspan is somewhat biased for our favourite banknote, the \$20, which features three images of New Zealand falcon karoroas. But they are not just any falcons, they are referenced from the birds held at Wingspan including Atareta and Shaheena.



Thank you to Copthorne Wellington for the accommodation, it's not every day that a falcon checks in at reception!



LT Gen the Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mātangarae.



The Reserve Bank hosted a special event held at Government House Wellington in April 2016, where the new \$20, \$50 and \$100 banknotes were revealed by the Governor General, LT Gen the Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mātangarae.

Sir Jerry said: "Our banknotes and coins are the national emblems that are most frequently accessed by all our citizens. They reflect who and what we value and remember, our taonga, and they declare what we want to say about our place in the world. I am sure that New Zealanders will appreciate the quality and enhanced integrity of the new notes."



Wingspan makes special acknowledgment to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand for the support of New Zealand falcon and hosting the event at Government House.

From left: Tony Caughey, Debbie Stewart, Shaheena Tebuka, Jonathan Ridge



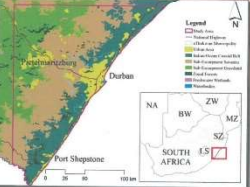
# Crowned EAGLES

What started off as research for an MSc, quickly expanded to become a PhD. Wingspan Birds of Prey Trust congratulates Life Member Dr Shane McPherson, who on the 20 March 2016, after three and a half years studying the Urban Ecology of the Crowned Eagle in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, was awarded his PhD from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.

Urban environments comprise a complex and dynamic landscape, and urban sprawl is irreversibly transforming large areas of land globally. Increasingly, the need for incorporating ecosystem services into urban landscapes provides opportunities for green-space to benefit biodiversity and indigenous wildlife. Enhancing urban green-space maximises indigenous biodiversity and provides conservation value, and can also benefit people by enriching their experience and awareness of nature. Large charismatic species can stimulate awe and interest as emblematic representatives of the wilderness.

As the global population becomes ever more urban, this enriches the human experience. The crowned eagle (*Stephanoetus coronatus*) is a large predatory raptor and a threatened species that is increasingly known to inhabit the Durban Metropolitan Open Space System (DMOSS), within eThekweni municipality, KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), South Africa. This research investigated the ecology of the crowned eagle in the urban environment and suggests opportunities for enhancing the urban landscape for conservation benefits.

Globally, dramatic land use change typical of urbanisation negatively affects biodiversity, especially for top predators. Understanding habitat use of keystone and apex species provides urban planners with an opportunity to integrate biodiversity in a growing city.



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This study looked at habitat use and nest site selection of crowned eagles on various spatial scales within this urban mosaic. Unsurprisingly the inter-nest distances were small in this human-dominated landscape. However, breeding sites were not evenly distributed through the landscape and were closely associated with natural forest, while nest trees were most frequently in patches of exotic large riverine Sydney blue gum within the DMOSS planning zones. Crowned eagles showed a strong tendency to avoid informal settlement areas, however they were tolerant of proximity to established formal settlements and occupied dwellings.



The 350 km<sup>2</sup> urban core study area comprised a matrix of mainly formal settlements. The study area was occupied by up to 22 active breeding pairs of crowned eagles. We documented a mean average home range of 4.3 km<sup>2</sup> containing 4.3 km<sup>2</sup> of territory per pair. These relatively small home ranges for a large eagle included shared territorial boundaries. Rapid replacement of vacancies at breeding sites suggests a saturated population. Habitat selection within the home range, show the importance of pockets of indigenous forest in this urban mosaic landscape.

These forests are fragmented and fragmentation increases the available edge habitats and landscape heterogeneity, potentially enhancing resource availability for crowned eagles in a highly modified landscape. The presence of remnant patches of mature *Eucalyptus* was more preferred than monocytic timber plantation stands. Consequently, continued protection, and a considered approach to management of *Eucalyptus* are required for the persistence of the crowned eagle in this landscape. The study of diet is pivotal in understanding a species,



Blood sample from the first live of crowned eagle pull in this study. Photos by Estrella Bourne 2013, Jacques Salscheip 2013.



The first crowned eagle nest recorded on a human-made structure. Sold into a monitoring camera, the eagle successfully fledged in Jan 2015. The nest is located above the bridge's support pylons, rising from the Umhlobo river's edge, Durban, South Africa. Photo by Adam White, 2014.

particularly for quantifying a predatory raptor's economic niche and potential for human-wildlife conflict. In close association with urban development, the local population of crowned eagles has the potential to be a concern to the safety of domestic stock and pets.

Time lapse cameras were positioned at urban nest sites to identify the prey composition during breeding, particularly in regards to taxa with human-associations. This was the first use of this technique for this species. The numerical proportion of avian prey, particularly hareda ibis (*Ibostycho hagedach pullus*) was several times greater than any previous diet description. The methodology used and the abundance of hareda ibis in these urban environments are potential contributing factors. Rock hyrax (*Procapra capensis*) was the primary prey and while hyrax were unavailable, the diet composition was broader and included more insect monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*). Domestic stock comprised only 6% of the identifiable prey. Contrary to popular belief, no dogs (Canis familiaris) and few cats (*Felis catus*) were delivered to the nest by breeding eagles in this study. In situ nest attacks are most frequently attributed to juvenile and immature crowned eagles in winter and spring.

Attacks on pets by crowned eagles, especially on small dog breeds, although relatively rare have a substantial influence on human-wildlife conflict and public perceptions. Pet attacks are generally attributed to juvenile and immature crowned eagles during periods of limited resources, particularly winter and during dispersal. In the juveniles' first spring, negative social perceptions have resulted in persecution, one of the main causes of recorded injury and mortality to crowned eagles in the region.

Gunshot persecution, electrocution and collisions with anthropogenic structures have the greatest impact on juvenile and immature survival in the region. This research provided management recommendations regarding various categories of crowned eagle human-wildlife interactions. Collaboration of wildlife authorities with NGOs and public stakeholder input creates an environment for successful crowned eagle conservation and management of human-wildlife conflicts. Public awareness is an important aspect to the sustainability of the urban crowned eagle population.

This study demonstrates that urban mosaic landscapes can provide conservation benefits for the crowned eagle. The land planning strategies enacted in Durban can guide urban expansion in tropical forest biomes to enhance indigenous biodiversity in urban mosaic landscapes in Africa, and globally.

Shane McPherson  
UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL  
PIETERMARITZBURG  
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

# WINGSPAN RAPTOR AWARDS

In a surprise event, Chifuyu Hawksby was presented with the 2015 Wingspan Raptor Conservation Award by Patron Dr Ruid Kleinpaste.

For more than five years Chifuyu has been researching New Zealand falcons in the pine forests of Kangaroo Forest. She is proudly a PhD candidate (Massey University) studying the Influence of Plantation Forest Practices on the Breeding, Dispersal, and Survival of New Zealand Falcons.

The aims of her research have included habitat use, pair formation dynamics, genetic affinities within Kangaroo Forest, and the effects of 1080 and herbicide use on the New Zealand falcons.

Definitely not a project for the faint-hearted, with many challenges that have been faced not least of which the New Zealand falcon is a very mobile and intelligent species.



Chifuyu Hawksby, winner of the 2015 Wingspan Raptor Conservation Award.



Chifuyu's challenges have included locating around 50 breeding pairs spread throughout 180,000 hectares of pine plantation. The most efficient method currently available to locate the breeding falcons is the use of formal call broadcasting equipment.

The broadcast call elicits a response from the resident falcons which in turn can be used to indicate the presence of a breeding pair of falcons in that compartment or forest patch.



The Wingspan Raptor Conservation Trophy is awarded annually to recognise individuals or groups for contributions to conservation, research, advocacy, and education.



Congratulations to Noel Hyde, celebrating the Rotorua Lakes Council 2016 Community Awards.

Noel was nominated and acknowledged at a local Grand Mayoral Reception, for his contributions to New Zealand bird conservation and scientific taxidermy.

Noel was the last government-employed Museum Preparator in New Zealand, spanning a professional career of nearly 40 years. He has completed more than 3,000 specimens.

Moving to Rotorua, he has continued research taxidermy on contract for Te Papa, Auckland, Canterbury, Otago, Rotorua and Manawatu Museums.

He has prepared specimens for the Department of Conservation, Kelly Tarlton's and Wingspan National Birds of Prey Centre.

Noel has prepared most New Zealand bird species - everything from tiny rifleman to royal albatross.

He remains a specialist in extinct bird reconstructions, research study skins, articulated skeletons, mount preparations for display and education. Noel is one of New Zealand's most recognised experts on feather identification. This has included a range of applications, including research on New Zealand Falcon for more than 38 years, and identification on korowai chicks for Te Papa Museum.

Noel is also a published author and co-author of more than 10 papers including research field trips offshore islands including the sub-Antarctic Auckland Islands. He was the first to publish on the Australian Barn Owl, breeding in New Zealand, now considered to be New Zealand's newest land rarer native species, and continues monitoring the small population.

He is a Department of Conservation registered holder of permits for research, holding of protected species, bird banding, and the first permit holder in New Zealand for falconry.



Award thrills Wingspan founder

## The WINGSPAN conservation programme recognised within the local community!

- Rotorua Lakes Council Restoration Heroes Award 2015
- Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence 2014, 2015, 2016
- Trustpower and Rotorua Lakes Council Community Awards 2016
- Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre, Regional Runner Up, Heritage and Environment, presented in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Rotorua Lakes community



- 2015 Rotorua Museum Art Awards. Congratulations to Kunen Koshi, Yohannan for being awarded a special merit for his photography.

- 2015 Pride of New Zealand, Kiwibank Local Hero. Congratulations to Debbie Stewart for being nominated in the 2015 national awards. Pride of New Zealand plus recognition in the Kiwibank award ceremony as a 'Local Hero' for her contributions to conservation.



# WINGSPAN WELCOMES VISITORS

THE PEOPLE



Robbie Gilman, NZP Falconer, Toru Toru



A participant of 2015, Mr. Dick, CNPWS Wingspan, holding a peregrine falcon in the Redwood Forest

Wendy Taylor, NZP Falconer, Department of Conservation, supported by Rotaruwa Falconry, the Gout



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All about the synergy! Wingspan hosted International Air Cadets from Canada, New Zealand, Hong Kong, UK, USA, Netherlands, and Switzerland. A fabulous day! From all of us at Wingspan, thank you for the certificates, badges, and support... possibly the bagpipes too!

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Doug McKay (Senior Department of Agriculture USA), with Ministry of Primary Industries representatives from Australia and New Zealand



David Kaiman, Netherlands



Michelle Palfrey, NZP Falconer



David Wood, Ontario, Canada Wildlife Service, Ontario



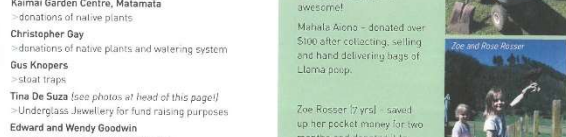
John Hodge, Ministry of Primary Industries



Robert Price, New Zealand Wildlife Service



A lot of raptor people, with a couple of falcons, and a couple of Chicks! Dr Nick and Michelle Fox, and Jim and Jo Chick



"Lovely to see you all doing so well and having achieved so much! Looking forward to coming back and seeing Wingspan on its new site!" - Dr Nick Fox, Wales, UK



"Sharing our beautiful raptors is a privilege and an easy way to get yourself up in the morning! Bring on the work and successes ahead!" - Michelle Mudford, Auckland



"A real treat!" - Keadrow family, Christchurch



"I met so many people and had the chance to see these amazing birds. Thank you for caring for them!" - Candice Wood, New Mexico, USA



"It's time awesome! 'I'mo gai Harewa'" - Heni Henare, Rotorua

"Amazing! Majestic!" - Orville Almar, Philippines

"Wonderful work you are doing here! Thank you for letting me hold the bird!" - Anna Zimmermann, Ireland

# Volunteers & Acknowledgements

With only a small staff team, volunteers remain a vital part of the Wingspan programme. This year Wingspan has recorded over 600 volunteer hours on site, and thousands of hours off-site helping with research needs, and monitoring of wild and released birds.

All this work would not be possible without the support from a large force of volunteers and supporters! From aviary cleaning and maintenance of the grounds, to tracking down falcons around the Rotorua Museum, Wingspan would like to thank all those giving up their personal time to help us and the conservation of birds of prey.

A special thank you once again to Julie Parsons and her exceptional team of volunteers who have been busy tracking the falcons at the Rotorua Museum. Julie has been chief co-ordinator and our extra set of eyes to watch over the young released falcons.

Plus a big thanks to Betty Shepherd (research volunteer) who, on a daily basis, has kept a watchful eye over the Redwood Forest falcon families.



Betty Shepherd, research volunteer. Read more on pages 18-19.

Our onsite volunteers, at the Wingspan Centre have included:

- Wendy Brown, Bryony Griffiths, Jo Hedge, Dan Hocking, and Kirsten Pearce.
- A charity work day by the staff team of Pernod Ricard New Zealand included Megan Abbot, Adrian Lewis, Shauna Budd, Fraser Marell, Alicia Smart.
- Work Experience and research students have included: Megan Abbott, Chloe Kane, Daniel Koh, Ajay Peramana Krishna
- This year Wingspan enjoyed the help from international volunteers from the UK and USA! A big 'pski-pski' (zappa) to Kerry Baker, Amanda Trezzy and Kelly Meany.



Wendy Brown, The team from Pernod Ricard New Zealand, Daniel Koh

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We also thank other volunteers for their operational help and support including:

- Fish and Game** - allowing the use for off-site aviaries
- Jansen Computer Systems Ltd** - Rotorua
- Steven White** - brochure delivery
- Kaimai Garden Centre, Matamata** - donations of native plants
- Christopher Gay** - donations of native plants and watering system
- Gus Knoppers** - stork traps
- Tina De Souza** (see photos at head of this page!) - Underglass Jewellery for fund raising purposes
- Edward and Wendy Goodwin** - display artwork and souvenir cards
- John Deal, Ideal Pens and Promotions** - pens and umbrellas
- Black Stallion Photography** - canvases and calendars

**THANKS KIDS**

Special thanks to the budding conservationists making a difference! Well done kids, you're awesome!

Mahala Aiono - donated over \$100 after collecting, selling and hand delivering bags of Lillona poop.

Zoe Rosser (7 yrs) - saved up her pocket money for two months and donated it to Wingspan. Zoe is pictured with her sister Rose (5 yrs).



Rotorua Kiwi Conservation Core (KCC) raised a whopping \$843 with a sizzling barbecue selling sausages in support of Wingspan. What a fantastic effort!

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Volunteer contributions also extend to time and things we need! Indeed, the hunters help the hunters, and each year, food items are donated to feed our birds. This can include ducks, pukeko, rabbits, hare, ferret pigeons, sometimes a turkey or two!

Fish and Game Staff: Dove Hutchings, Rachel Lang, Richard and James Mallison, Ian Phillips, Hilary Prior, Dave Robinson, Chris van Beek, Nigel Washam, and Ron and Rebecca Watts

# WILD BIRDS



**Merindah**  
 ♀  
 Australian Barn Owls, Kaitiaki  
 L10425 (left), L-48434 (right)  
 Sponsors: Paul and Maryanne Richardson  
 Photo by Alize McGilivray



Every year wild raptors are monitored and banded by Wingspan. This remains in-situ research and conserving birds of prey in their natural environment. A band combination is unique to an individual bird and when seen or located, we can gain important information about dispersal, pair bonding, and longevity.

**Sponsor a wild raptor!** Help Wingspan to help kaitiaki. Kaitiaki and ruru just \$200 to donate towards research banding and release programmes. See page 60 for further details. Alternatively, contribute to help injured or rescued birds through **Give-A-Little** [www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-raptors](http://www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-raptors)

## THE BIRDS



**Whakaramea Forest**  
 Sponsors: Abby and Ed Ross  
 Bands: H-25534 (left) Blue (right) ♀



**Whakaramea Forest**  
 Sponsors: Jenny White  
 Bands: Black (left) S-83457 (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Rob & Marie Lloyd  
 Bands: No band (left) H-37962 (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Thomas Schwalbe  
 Bands: Black (left) K-14519 (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Penny Atcott  
 Bands: No band (left) H-37953 (right) ♀



**Whakaramea Forest**  
 Sponsors: The Bassett Family  
 Bands: Yellow (left) H-37956 (right) ♀



**Whakaramea Forest**  
 Sponsors: Rick and Betty Strickland  
 Bands: White (left) S-80273 (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Richard and Lynn Leitch  
 Bands: H-37538 (left) No band (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Judith Brown  
 Bands: No band (left) H-37992 (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Mark & Karen Walker  
 Bands: H-37538 (left) No band (right) ♀



**Kaingaroa Forest**  
 Sponsors: Judith Brown  
 Bands: No band (left) H-37992 (right) ♀



**Hiraka Ranges, Auckland**  
 Sponsors: Pam Pratt  
 Bands: L-32559 (left) Blue (right) ♀



**Hiraka Ranges, Auckland**  
 Sponsors: Hannah Leckie  
 Bands: L-32788 (right) ♀



**Hiraka Ranges, Auckland**  
 Sponsors: Paul & Jacqui Vail, Tasmania  
 Bands: L-32897 (left) ♀

# Relocated

**Jelima**  
 An adult female falcon arrived at Wingspan in February last year, found injured in Whakatane. Her condition improved with care, however noticeably had a sight impairment in her right eye. Staff, fondly called her 'Matamata' until she was named 'Jelima' by her sponsors, the Guerin Family of Auckland.

Jelima was trained for fitness during the year, and become part of the daily flying displays, and for nine months delighted visitors as an advocate for her species. But the call of the wild was more than her dependency on Wingspan, and in mid-December she chased a harrier hawk and flew into the distance.

Six weeks later we received an excited call from Debra Wells in Matamata, "there's a falcon in my backyard!" Easily recognised by her anklets and band number, Jelima became a star in the local community paper 'Scene Matamata', and made her new home the middle of the township – Centennial Drive (and a main highway).

Sadly, a call in mid-April by Matamata vets. She had been found on the roadside injured, and we can only assume she was prey-fied during a hunting flight. Unfortunately Jelima passed away on her return journey home.

Northland couple Colin and Delwyn Trigg, who on discovering a wild breeding pair of ruru moreporks in their garage, built them a Wingspan design nesting box. They called the owl pair 'Treasure and Fledge', and since 2014 the birds have been breeding successfully.

"We have another new chick. Treasure was in her usual flap this morning but when I went to look to her about 3pm she wasn't there... then I heard her call from her favourite rimu tree. I couldn't believe it... Treasure was sitting on one branch with a sparrow and there was a new chick a bit lower down the tree. The lighting is not too great but I sent the pics anyway... fancy getting them both in the photo like this! They are still in the same spot on our river."

The photo with both birds - look to the top left of the tree to see Treasure with the sparrow, and the new chick is down lower. Just had to share, this is soooo exciting!!! Delwyn Trigg



Mary Chaffey, with 'Chalky-B' (male) and 'Stella' (female) at just two weeks old during their pre-transfer health checks and banding.

Mary Chaffey was excited to be taking two captive bred 'Eastern' falcons through to Wanaka to be hawk released into the wild. They were both released two weeks later, with Chalky-B seen flying off the distance fostered by a wild pair of falcons.



Less successful was Stella, and just a week after release was found with a beak (upper mandible) injury, and needing additional care. Stella is now being cared for by Dean Thomas (Ngai Tahu) as she goes through rehabilitation, fitness training and developing hunting skill.

Thank you to Liz Collins of Chalky Digits, Wanaka for your \$5 sponsorship support!

# Who's an egg? What's in a Name

## CAPTIVATED FALCONS

**Ayvola ♀**  
 She was found injured on a farm in Maungatua, Otago. She was unable to fly and had trouble standing upright. After training revealed she struggled to fly, she was paired up with Hamdan to form our second Eastern breeding pair.  
**Gold Sponsors: Mary Staal, Charles Feast**

**Fovea ♀**  
 Fovea was found as an orphaned fledgling in Mopara Forest. Fovea has been named after the part of the eye that is responsible for sharp central vision. Ironic now, as due to her old age she has developed cataracts and has very limited sight! She is our oldest bird at the centre, now 14 years old! Over her breeding years, she has been responsible for 23 chicks (some as a foster parent as well as her own).  
**Gold Sponsors: Mark & Patricia McKenna**

**Hamdan ♂**  
 He was a rescued chick from Otago in 2013. He has been paired up with Ayvola to become part of the captive breeding programme. Hamdan is named after Sheikh Hamdan – the Crown Prince of Dubai, where falconry is still very popular.  
**Bronze Sponsor: Carolina Rogers, Irma Swanepoel**

**Hisan ♂**  
 Hisan was an "only child" from the second clutch from Rita & Lee in 2015. He is currently being flown for the daily displays and he is delighting visitors with his 'chewy' behaviour! Hisan is Arabic for 'horse', which celebrates the long history falconry has with horsemanship.  
**Absolute Sponsors - Broncoes Steakhouse**

**Icarus ♂**  
 Found on the Napier-Taupo Highway, he was sent to Massey University in Palmerston North, who found he had a fractured right wing and was unable to fly. Now paired with Kalia, we are hopeful that he will become part of our breeding program. "Icarus" comes from a Greek legend of a demi-god who flew too close to the sun and burnt his wings, leaving him flightless.  
**Sponsors: Genevieve Foreman and the Hastings-Napier Kiwi Conservation Club.**

**Julz ♀**  
 Originally from Kaingaroa (2008), found with an injured wing after wire strike (deer fencing). At just one year of age she laid her first eggs and has over the last six years successfully bred, and fostered chicks each season.  
**Gold Sponsors: Chris & Enkhjargal. Bronze Sponsors: Kim Murdie, and Archeology Resources**

At Wingspan, we can check fertility and embryo growth by 'candling the egg' – a high-powered light is held up to the shell which makes it possible to see changes and movement inside.

Here are three different eggs of New Zealand raptors - can you guess which ones they might be?



**Clue:**  
 Hold this page up to the light.

## Who's taking off?

Raptor chicks are called altricial: they are helpless, with little eyes closed and completely dependent on their parents to care for, feed, and protect them.



### Kaha ♀

Kaha came to Wingspan after having a surgery at Wellington Zoo. Initially found by a member of public, a metal pin was inserted to repair her broken right wing. She will likely become a breeding bird due to her restricted flying ability. Kaha was reportedly very 'lucky' to zoo staff in Wellington, so was given the nickname 'Kaha', short for Kia Kaha, due to her strong nature. **Absolute Sponsors:** Wayne & Lorna Butler

### Ka kite ♂

Ka kite was originally found injured in Hawkes Bay, and was taken to Massey Vets (Palmerston North) for surgery on his wing. He has since been paired with Jule, and is now part of the Wingspan falcon breeding programme. **Gold Sponsors:** Archeology Resources

### Lee ♂

Lee was one of three falcons rescued from Kaingaroa Forest during the 2014 breeding season. Brought in as an egg because the parents were struggling, he was raised at Wingspan before being paired with Rita. At only eight months of age, Lee became a father to three chicks of his own. He set a record as our youngest ever breeding falcon. **Absolute Sponsor:** Beverley Guy

### Millennium (aka 'Millie') ♀

Regarded as our resident drama queen, Millie was originally bred at Wingspan and handreared. Millie has been one of the star performers at Wingspan, delighting visitors in the daily flying displays, however due to her age and failing eyesight she has since been retired. **Absolute Sponsor:** Millennium Hotel Rotorua

### Mojo ♂

Captive bred at Wingspan, but abandoned by his parents at one day of age, and handreared by staff. Mojo is now an important part of our education program, and is often taken offsite to schools or special presentations. **Absolute Sponsor:** Kaimai Brewing Company

### Ozzy ♂

'The Hunter,' is our oldest bird flown in the displays. Over his 12 years, he has been seen by thousands of visitors, and a fine advocate for his species. Indeed, by calculation, Ozzy has performed for visitors for over 5,500 displays! **Gold Sponsor:** Andrew Maseyk, **Silver Sponsor:** Charlie Foster & Tracey Wheeler

But raptors grow quickly. In just six weeks, they're full adult weight and size, and ready to fly!



PHOTO BY ROSA HUNTER

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### Rita ♀

Found with a broken wing in Raetihi, Rita was brought to Wingspan after medical care at Massey Vets (Palmerston North). Unable to fly again, Rita has been paired with Lee and plays an important role in the captive breeding programme. **Gold Sponsors:** Russell & Denise Maytin, Malcolm Macrae & Janet Green

### Shaheena Tetsuko ♀

Shaheena is the word for a female falcon in Arabic, and Tetsuko meaning 'Lady of Steel' in Japanese. Shaheena is an advocacy falcon, she is a career woman! Indeed, she is one of the falcons pictured on the new NZ \$20 banknotes, and had a special invite from the Reserve Bank of New Zealand to visit Government House in Wellington in 2016. **Gold Sponsors:** Garry & Erin Burt, James McCarthy

### Wink ♂

Wink was originally found hurt in a wild falcon nest in Waihoai (South Island), he was found with a stick protruding from his eye! He has recovered from his injury and has retained most of his vision, and is part of the breeding programme. **Gold Sponsor:** Brian & Les Turner, **Silver Sponsors:** Lindsay & Alison Moore, Small Animal Surgeons, **Bronze Sponsor:** Kes Baker

## MOREPORKS

### Frodo ♂

In 2012, Frodo was from the breeding pair of owls called Nestor & Wairuru. He was hand-raised by Wingspan staff and is now used for advocacy work. With his short stature and hairy feet, Frodo of course has been named after the Hobbit in the film series 'Lord of the Rings'. **Gold Sponsor:** Dave and Heather Brunston, **Silver Sponsor:** Heather Boaler **Bronze Sponsor:** David Juby

### Nestor ♂

Amazingly, Nestor was found by a kayaker, as a young bird, floating in the Tongariro River! After recovering in Waihoai, he was transferred to Wingspan to become part of the breeding programme. He has been named after one of the oldest and wisest of the Greek Kings, Nestor of Gerenia. **Gold Sponsor:** Mary Staal

### Wairuru ♀

In 2006, Wairuru was found with a broken wing in Taupo, brought to Wingspan and is unable to be released due to permanent injury. Now paired with Nestor she is helping Wingspan breed and release morepork out to the wild. **Silver Sponsors:** Maxine Powick, **Bronze Sponsors:** Fiona & Neale Parkinson, Heather Boaler, Archeology Resources



PHOTO DAVID KOOKER  
PHOTO DAVID KOOKER  
PHOTO DAVID KOOKER  
PHOTO BEBIE STEWART

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## THE BIRDS



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### Whisper ♀

Whisper was found in 2007 in an abandoned nest by forestry contractors in Kaingaroa Forest. She was artificially incubated then hand raised, Whisper remains the friendliest morepork at Wingspan, and is an excellent foster mother for other ruru chicks. **Absolute Sponsor:** Edward & Wendy Goodwin

## BARN OWL

### Tahi ♀

Found in 2008 on farmland in Kaitiaki with a severely broken left wing, Tahi is the only captive Australian barn owl in New Zealand. The word Tahi is Maori for 'one', which is very fitting for this very special and unique bird. **Gold Sponsors:** Gary & Annette Hall, **Silver Sponsors:** Nadine Besset, Michel Micheiels

## HARRIERS

### Boomer ♂

Was found injured and brought to Wingspan for care and attention. After making good progress and recovery, he put on weight and was released. Unfortunately two days later he was back at Wingspan after being hit by a motorbike. Named Boomer, short for boomerang, because he keeps coming back! **Absolute sponsor:** Gaet Black

### Fran ♀

Found March 2010 in Marrinsville, she arrived at Wingspan starving, and unable to fly. Nursed back to health, her tractable nature made her perfect for training, education and advocacy. Fran is named in memory of the late Dr Frances Hamerstrom, a famous falconer and biologist who spent 25 years studying harriers in northern Wisconsin USA. **Silver Sponsors:** Hawky Haulage

### Tai ♂

It was certainly a rough start to life for Tai. He was found very young with obvious signs of starvation during his brief time in the wild. He was given some initial training, then housed in the harrier aviary for socialisation awaiting future release. **Absolute Sponsor:** Mark Hoyle

### Sky ♂

Sky is a male harrier that first arrived to Wingspan in 2002. Sky is a display bird and is the oldest and palest harrier on display. **Gold Sponsors:** Trish Nazzari, **Silver Sponsors:** Hawky Haulage, **Bronze Sponsors:** Helen Sellwood

## The nature of nature

Wingspan receives many injured or rescued raptors each year where possible these birds are released, however many have permanent injuries and cannot be returned to the wild. These birds are either retained for advocacy purpose, and/or paired together as part of the breeding programme.

As this journal goes to print, with sadness we celebrate the loss of three special falcons, who touched many lives. They will be missed.

### Ali

An Eastern falcon, originally from Marlborough, found as a juvenile with a broken wing after deliberate shooting. 12 years old. Mother (and foster mother) of more than 30 falcon chicks. Died from cancerous tumour.

**Sponsors:** Alison and Noel Lamberton, Villa Productions Ltd.

### Atareta

Captive bred at Wingspan, a Bush falcon daughter of 'Tuho'e' and 'Fovea'. 8 years old.

Trained by Wingspan falconers Andrew Thomas and Noel Hyde, and the highlight of more than 2000 public flying displays.

Died following dog attack. Named in honour of the late Atareta Maxwell, Rotorua. **Absolute Sponsor:** Kath McIndoe.

### R2D2

A Bush falcon originally from Taupo, found as a juvenile with a broken wing after wire strike. 9 years old.

Father (and foster father) of more than 20 falcon chicks. Died from secondary rodenticide poisoning. **Sponsors:** Chris and Enkhjargal Morgan, Graham and Blanche Lubbock, Craig Irving, Carolina Rogers, Sam Dunlop.



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**PROUD TO BE THE PREFERRED PRINTERS FOR WINGSPAN**

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Call John Deal on 0800 222 262 or 0274 985 362 Email [john@idealpens.co.nz](mailto:john@idealpens.co.nz)

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**Proud to be an enthusiastic supporter of Wingspan and absolute sponsor of Millie.**

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Perfectly situated overlooking Polynesian Spa and Lake Rotorua. Ask about our free Local's Card for discounts throughout the hotel. Restaurant Nikau / Bar Zazu / Brasserie Poolside Restaurant / The Spa.

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**ZAZU**

**RESTAURANT Nikau**

**MILLENNIUM**

This advertisement is fully sponsored by Millennium Hotel, Rotorua

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**LAKE CHALICE**

Lake Chalice is a proud sponsor of the Wingspan Trust, protecting and preserving the New Zealand Falcon.

*Fly Fearless*

[www.lakechalice.com](http://www.lakechalice.com)

After 26 years, Lake Chalice in Marlborough has been sold, and is now under new management. Wingspan would like to gratefully acknowledge the support over twenty years by the original Lake Chalice Founder families, the Gambiolas and Binnie's.

From the beginning, Lake Chalice put the credibility behind their branding like no other before them. Each of them was instantly recognisable with the strong image of a New Zealand falcon, their annual donations supporting a breeding aviary, support of individual falcons, and the events linking with conservation efforts.

Falcons like '42' who took in 2001 was the first to be flown over the vineyards of Marlborough. In her honour she had her own wine label 'Flight 42', and she was the falcon, that shared the birds, that ate the grapes, that made the wine.

From all of us at Wingspan, we thank the Gambiolas and Binnie families personally for their conservation passion, their steadfast focus to help the New Zealand falcon, and their wonderful support of the Wingspan programme from grass roots beginnings.

We wish you all the very best for new adventures.

Fly Fearless!

This advertisement is fully sponsored by Black Stallion Photography

**Orders for A4, A3 and A2 canvases can be placed online via the 'Shop' link on the Wingspan website.**

All profits from the sale of these canvases go directly to Wingspan to help them care for and rehabilitate injured birds, carry out research and educate more and more people about New Zealand's unique birds of prey.

[www.igallopfree.com](http://www.igallopfree.com)

This advertisement is fully sponsored by Black Stallion Photography

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# SHOP EXCLUSIVE

**Wingspan Eyeshirts**  
4 Hand-Dyed Tees

A range of unique and original designs. "Designed and printed in NZ" from \$30ea



**Wingspan Postcards and Magnets**

Featuring our raptors: Kaurarewa, Ruru, Kahu & Barn Owl

Postcards \$2ea Magnets \$3ea



**Fossil Replica**

This fossil replica of the Haast's Eagle is made of a lightweight composite. "Great gift or jewelry idea!"

\$55ea



**Laminated Game Boards**

Placemats featuring Whisper the monopark and Mike the New Zealand Falcon photo images by Andrew Warner & graphics by June Priest of SeeHoney Visual Communications"

\$25ea



**Wingspan Caps**

Keep cool in summer and dry in winter with our onsize fit all, velcro adjustable black Wingspan Cap. "Encrusted with the Wingspan logo"

\$30ea



**Falcon and Monopark Soft Toys**

With realistic sound when pressed. Take Kahu the falcon with you on your travels and upload his holiday shots to his very own facebook page "Whisper's Kids"

Kahu, 4 Small Monopark \$20ea  
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**Falconry Hoops & Keyrings**

Range of leather falconry keyring hoops and gloves. "Handmade in Pakistan"

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**Wingspan Raptor Puzzles**

8 piece puzzle featuring Kaurarewa, Kahu, Ruru and our Barn Owl! "a challenge for any age!"

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**Art work range**

A great range of art work available for sale. "Models of Wingspan's fleet"

**Gift Cards**

Designs based on our Wingspan birds. "Original art work by Wendy Goodwin"

\$5ea



THE CHARM

Visit us in store for a wide variety of unique raptor related gift ideas and souvenirs. The profits from all sales go directly towards supporting the conservation of our threatened birds of prey.

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**THE WINGSPAN CENTRE**

Wingspan offers unique, once-in-a-lifetime raptor opportunities. Don't forget your camera!

**Open daily 9.00am-3.00pm**  
Best time 1.30 pm ready for 2.00 pm Flying & Training Displays  
1144 Paradise Valley Rd, Rotorua  
Casual Visitors Welcome  
Group (10+) Tours by appointment  
Adults \$25.00, Seniors \$20.00, Children \$10.00

**RAPTOR EXPERIENCE**  
An elite behind-the-scenes hosted tour of the breeding, research and display facility with a Wingspan falconer. Perfect for those interested in a unique interactive experience in addition to the daily flying display. Bookings in advance please as the tour is limited to only six people daily.

**\$100.00 per group (plus admission per person)**

**SCHOOL VISITS**  
Wingspan offers a unique educational experience for students.

**\$80.00 Group Tour Fee and then just \$8.00 per person.**

**DONATIONS**  
if you wish to contribute towards the Wingspan programme, donations are welcomed.

**Donations of \$5.00 or more are tax deductible within New Zealand.**

**WINGSPAN MEMBERSHIP**  
Wingspan membership includes the annual journal, a special Wingspan member's pin on joining, plus year round complimentary admission to the Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre.

**Individual - \$45.00 per annum; Family \$100.00 per annum (for couples and families residing at the same address)**

**SPONSOR A NEW ZEALAND RAPTOR AT WINGSPAN**  
Name the bird, receive a colour photograph, free admission to the Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre, and special acknowledgment in the annual journal. Subject to availability - Call Wingspan for more information.

**Individual - \$1,000; or Gold \$500; Silver \$300; Contributing sponsors \$100.**

**NEW CENTRE DONATIONS & GIFT MEMBERSHIPS WELCOMED!**

(EQUILIBRIUM) If conditions of an assigned bird sponsorship change, the sponsor's pet will be rehomed and given the opportunity to reassign sponsorship.

**BEQUESTS AND SPECIAL MEMORIALS BY ARRANGEMENT. PLEASE CONTACT THE WINGSPAN OFFICE.**

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**How you can help**

As a volunteer organisation and charitable trust donors to the programme enable us to provide the research and education that we are passionate about. Your research and education people about our unique birds of prey.

Member #  New  Gift

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

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Online (secure server) by credit card: [www.wingspan.co.nz](http://www.wingspan.co.nz)

Direct Credit: Wingspan - Account #9 545 000720 on Please and membership number and name of issuing business. Send cheque to: Wingspan, PO box 993, Rotorua 9040

**Make a donation**

\$10  \$20  \$50  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Request a card** - contact Wingspan for more information

**FAST PAYMENT OPTIONS**

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Please fold leaflet, with your personal details on the inside, and tape along the edge before posting

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Photo by Yvonne Down Under Photography