

WINGSPAN
NATIONAL BIRD OF PREY CENTRE

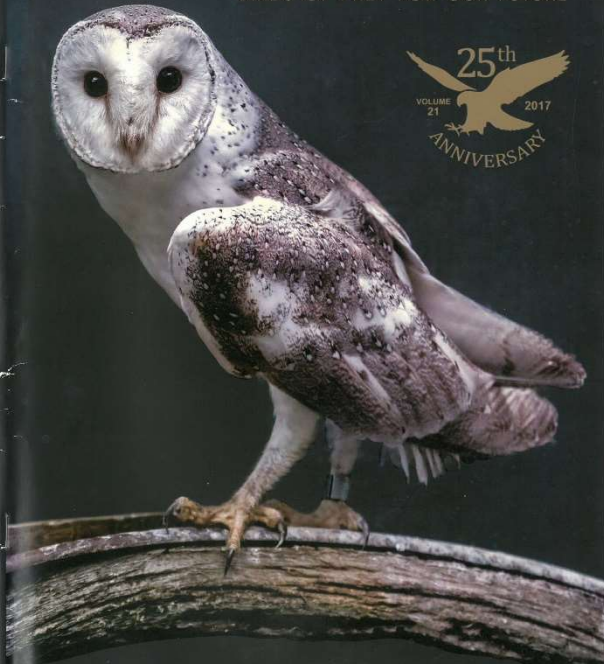


Registered Charitable Trust 1992

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WINGSPAN

BIRDS OF PREY FOR OUR FUTURE



\$10 LIMITED COLLECTOR'S EDITION WITH SPECIAL PULL OUT POSTER

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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Within the grounds of the Ngongotaha Trout Hatchery, in Rotorua, a set of concrete secure aviaries were originally built by the Wildlife Service (then managed through a transition with the Department of Conservation and Fish and Game New Zealand). Sometimes the cages were used to temporarily house chuker partridges prior to release for hunters, for translocations of native birds like kokako and bellbirds before liberation to off-shore islands, illegal confiscated birds like kea, and sometimes for sick swans and ducks affected by 'botulism'. Mostly during the year, the five cages would be unused, so when Wingspan was first established, permission was granted to house injured and rescued birds of prey, and trained birds were free lofted within the small aviaries.

Before long, the Wingspan conservation programme started to grow, with more birds delivered for care, and more aviary space was needed.

To accommodate breeding pairs of New Zealand falcon an additional aviary marked Wingspan's first construction, purpose built facility. This was supported by volunteers, the forestry industry (Fletcher Challenge forests), and help from the Lotteries Commission, Heritage and Environment funding.

Wingspan continued to expand the conservation programme, and there came a need for a larger centre where birds could be housed, a research repository could be established, raptors could be trained, and a facility suitable for visitors.

On neighbouring private farmland, an approach was made to the landowners to establish the Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre. Utilising the open framework of a neglected hydroponics structure, a half round barn for administration,

with security accommodation, the reconstruction and development led to the Wingspan Centre opening to the public in 2004.

Falcons, hawks and owls were released from the property, daily training and flying displays proved to be popular for visitors, a small Museum was established, and a separate incubation/rearing room accommodated rescued eggs, chicks, and sick birds from the wild.

By 2012, the need to expand the facilities became a priority. The Wingspan Board identified, through business planning, the need to locate a new permanent base to accommodate future growth and expand on the programme. The aim was to secure a long term sustainable future for a unique New Zealand conservation, education and research organisation.

A new Home to focus on conservation, education, provide research facilities, and promote awareness of the environment, the importance of biodiversity, and the unique cultural heritage surrounding birds of prey. The target audience being all demographics including domestic and international visitors, families, children, research students, school groups, with a target projection of 100,000 visitors per annum by 2022.

Over the last five years, Wingspan's new 'Home' has been the main area of focus, preparation and planning. The criteria for site selection was important. Land options were investigated for availability and sustainability, and included private land for sale, or lease arrangements on Local Body Council land, Department of Conservation land, and corporate forestry land. But the ideal location was identified on the northern slopes of Mount Ngongotaha, not far from the current site. With the support of local iwi, a new 'Home' for Wingspan in the footsteps of an ancient explorer 'henga',

on Ngati Whakau Tribal Lands will be established.

This new land is perfect for Wingspan's conservation programme with landowner support for a long term lease into the future. A large land area, enabling space for the centre development, north facing, with a continuous eye-line to horizon view overlooking Lake Rotorua and neighbouring farmland. A gently sloping site providing 'airspace' and lift for the birds in flight. Availability for planting native trees and enhancing conservation values alongside a backdrop of pine plantation and agricultural landscape. Easy access by private and public transport from Rotorua, and with road access from the bottom of the slope.

A number of architectural designs have been drafted, but with estimates between \$2-6 million being mostly too expensive to match affordability and subsequent fundraising required, this year Resource and Building Consents are being finalised incorporating a more economic (less than \$1 million) Stage One and Stage Two approach for affordability.

Wingspan remains one of the few registered charities in New Zealand that does not receive government or local body funding. Grant applications have been made (on a national and international stage), mostly unsuccessful in an environment of huge global competition for the philanthropic dollar. Major banks approached for mortgage options have declined based on current economic climate. Despite this, staff and members have worked hard, and over 25 years Wingspan has been funded by small donations from thousands of members and visitors, and has built capital reserves of \$250,000 for the relocation.

Support is growing, and demonstrating where commercial interests can compliment conservation efforts, Kaingaroa Timberlands has pledged \$50,000 per annum for the new centre thus adding credibility to their operations and their branding. Local businesses and contractors have gifted or reduced their fees (a special thank you to APL Properties, Darin Grant Architectural Design, and Opus), and school children have donated their pocket money and sold biscuits to passersby.

As a conservation programme we have big aspirations for Wingspan—to share our dynamic and spectacular birds of prey, to promote education and research, with families, with our children... the next generation.

With Wingspan's lease on the current site due to expire in 2018, time is of the essence. We urgently need to increase the scale of our fundraising, and will be campaigning for additional support spreading the word through social media campaigns, like Give-a-little and Facebook, enlisting volunteer support, donations of native plants, and fundraising auctions.

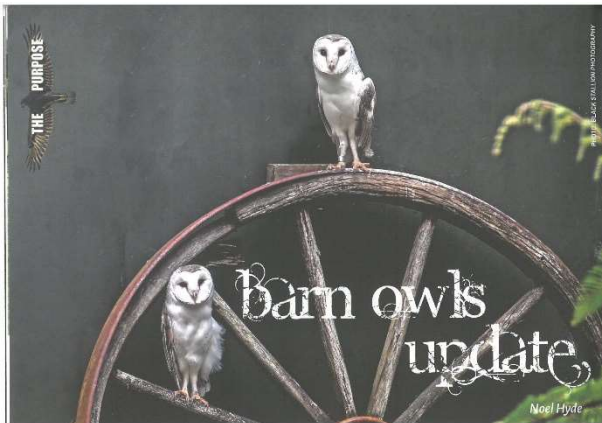
Stepping Up for Wingspan, and stepping up for a new Home—Te Whareote Kaitiaki.

The new Wingspan 'Home' will allow an intimate experience with conservation, and provide practical biodiversity solutions for home backyards, our backyards. 'Take home' messages about the environment, sustainability, energy use alternatives, pest control, planting, clean water, recycling, and energy efficiency. Aspirations to allow more people to experience New Zealand birds of prey, and provide:

- ✦ a more broader cultural and ecosystem based learning environment for visitors
- ✦ improved captive management and research facilities to support our in-situ conservation programme
- ✦ facilities for Wingspan to better support its education and research partners through its national outreach programme; and
- ✦ a sustainable revenue base for the conservation and education work of the Trust



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Most behavioural observations of wild barn owls are done during the evening and I was interested to see what goes on in the hours approaching dawn. Although I tried to wrap up warmly in my sleeping bag, I spent a very, very, cold winter's night, sleeping out in the territory of a pair of breeding barn owls in Northland.

My timing wasn't the best, it was early winter and bad weather was forecast, a few showers and the extreme cold kept barn owl activity minimal. A heavy frost greeted me as night turned into day. I spent the morning searching below all known roosts collecting pellets and prey remains to be later analysed for a study into their diet.

It was while searching an area of likely looking trees, that my eye caught sight of a young barn owl hunched up on the ground with its chin tucked into its breast and its eyes closed. I couldn't believe my eyes as I slowly walked towards it and it didn't move. I reached down to pick it up, its light

weight had me immediately worried, I felt its breastbone and knew it was starving, it offered no resistance and its eyes remained shut. It seemed to be in a state of torpor. I subsequently read that this is not unusual, especially to late hatched first winter birds. I placed the young owl deep inside my swan down next to my skin and breathed warm breaths down onto it.

The bad weather forecast a cyclone coming down from the tropics. It brought with it, much colder temperatures than normal, as well as severe, stormy, weather across Northland, including gale force winds and flooding across the region which resulted in the recovery of five dead and injured barn owls.

On August 5, 2016 Wingspan received a call from Robert Webb of Northland Native Bird Recovery to say he had an injured barn owl that had been found on the side of the road by 'Fulton Hogan' and could not fly. After a brief conversation, I packed some owl food in the car and set off for Whangarei, excited that the owl might be okay, and be a male we could pair with Tahī, our lone nine year-old female.

On arrival at Robert and Robyn's Native Bird Recovery Centre in Whangarei, one look at the owl showed me the bird was listless, weak, had soiled uverates around its vent,

and was in very poor condition. Its low body weight suggested the bird had been suffering for some days before being found. From the plumage, it looked like a juvenile female. Robert had given it some fluids so I force fed it some pieces of skinned day old chick so it wouldn't have to put energy into forming a pellet and casting.

Because the bird was so weak I booked myself into a motel for the night so I could allow it to rest, and monitor it before the trip back to Wingspan. I remembered nine years ago when we'd collected Tahī with a broken wing, she'd kept me awake in my motel room most of the night shuffling about in her crate. This bird was different, a few shuffles as if changing position, but much, much quieter. I was very worried about her.

I managed a bit of sleep but awoke the next morning fearing the worst, but was pleasantly surprised she was still alive but looking very weak.

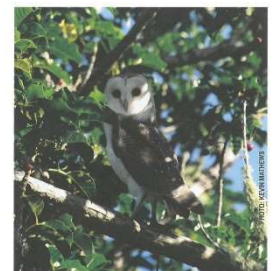
Once everything was ready we headed home for Wingspan. I drove very carefully with my precious cargo, checking every half hour or so on how it was going. I pulled over and gave her my last check at Matamata, she was resting quietly. I told her only an hour to go and we'd be home.

I pulled into Wingspan and when I reached in to lift her box out could see immediately that she'd just passed away, she was still so soft and warm. We were all devastated.

Four days later Kevin Matthews calls and tells me a barn owl was found in a local backyard but had subsequently died,

he'd keep the specimen in his freezer for me to collect on my next trip through.

He didn't have to wait long, nine days later on the morning of August 13, Kevin calls again to say an injured barn owl has been found on a roadside in east Kaitiaki, and he's going to uplift it that evening. Looking at the photos he'd been sent and had passed onto Wingspan, we both excitedly agreed, the bird looked like a male. Not having any food for it, I tell him I'll come through immediately and will bring some with me.



Six and a half hours later I arrived at Kevin's at 8pm, he and his partner Debbie had just got back from picking the owl up. The bird was in a large wire cage and had been found on a roadside by a person out walking when they'd seen a dog showing interest in a strange white owl.

After a close inspection, we could see it had a dislocated radius and ulna of the left wing and was unable to fly. We transferred it to an animal carry crate and the following morning we visited a local vet, got an x-ray and tried to unsuccessfully manipulate the bones back into place. Initially force fed the owl, but it quickly gained strength and began feeding itself.

After arriving back at Wingspan, we sent a feather off to Massey University for DNA sexing. After a couple of tests, the results confirmed it was a male, we were elated!

Now we had a pair of barn owls we could pair together in the hope of starting a self-sustaining captive population.



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ON THE WING

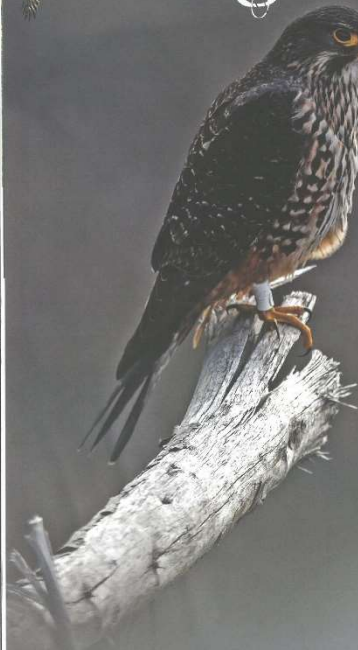


PHOTO: BLACK STALLION PHOTOGRAPHY
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Now in its fifth consecutive year, 'On the Wing,' the first city release of a threatened species, continues to be a successful conservation initiative.

Of the seven falcons released from the top of the Rotorua Museum in the Government Gardens, there have been two particular falcons that have kept our attention. We have known them personally for a number of years now, indeed, from when they were eggs! Both were captive bred at Wingspan from parents that could not be released due to permanent injuries.

First released in 2013 was 'Hatupatu,' a father, hunter and warrior. The following year a young female was released, 'Maia' now a mother, a protector, and a teacher. Both were released in the inner city, and on a daily basis continue to take food items from a special falcon feeding tray that is refilled daily by the staff and volunteers of the Rotorua Museum.

But it is now the pine forest cutovers of the Whakarewarewa Forest, just 8 km away, that has become home base for Hatupatu and Maia. Their first successful breeding was in 2015, when they hatched and reared one male chick that we called Te Huatahi (the firstborn).

In September last year, forest workers in collaboration with Wingspan staff and researchers, sighted new courting activity with Hatupatu and Maia and were seen making a nest (scrape) on the ground in a newly replanted area of Whakarewarewa Forest.

In a repeat of their first nesting the year before, the site selection of the ground scrape by the falcons, was in a busy recreational area, popular with mountain bikers, dog walkers, and horse riders. It wasn't long before reports started coming in. The falcons' territorial behavior, loud vocalizing, mock attacks and dive bombing, confirmed egg laying had started.

Wingspan was aware of the potential risks around the nest site and took additional precautionary action. Press releases were made in local papers and through social media, reports were written for newsletters, research volunteers monitored the pair from a safe distance, large signs were erected marking the general area, and a trail cam was fitted close to the nest for additional monitoring.

Eggs were swapped between the parents and Wingspan's artificial incubators in a parallel-hatch scenario. One chick reared by Hatupatu and Maia, and another chick from Wingspan was transferred at one week of age, and then the

'real' parents successfully raised the two chicks together. Hatupatu and Maia kept them well fed and taught them how to hunt. To our surprise and delight, after those chicks successfully fledged, a second clutch of two chicks was also successful at the end of summer.

To date, a total of five falcon chicks have been reared by the pair, successful parents that have survived in the wild longer than most. But in addition, they have also provided an opportunity for us to witness the more intimate moments of their otherwise secret lives.

They have continued making conservation history in New Zealand.

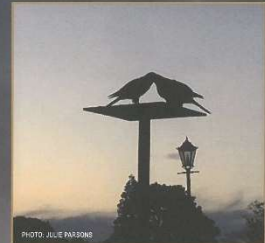


PHOTO: JULIE PARSONS



PHOTO: BLACK STALLION PHOTOGRAPHY

ON THE WING

URBAN RELEASE OF THE NEW ZEALAND FALCON

the aerial food pass

Once the fledglings are flying competently, the transfer of food to the youngsters can take several forms - either perched transfers, direct aerial transfers, aerial live drops and aerial dead drops, as shown and described below.

sex in the city

The latter two transfers especially, teach the youngsters the need for excellent footing capability, speed and determination. Should the live drop escape or the dead drop be missed, fall and be lost, they go hungry.

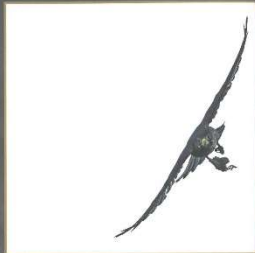
SEX in the CITY

Rare to witness and is a testament to the patience of Kurien Koshy Yohannan, Black Stallion Photography, to capture the intimate moments....

...and as this journal goes to print, Hatupatu and Maia are preparing for the new season.



1. Adult female flies in with prey



2. She turns and shows her young chick dinner encouraging him to come and get it



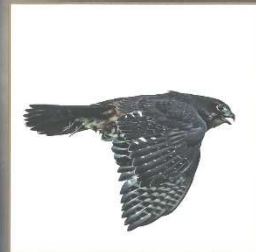
3. The hungry young male fledgling gives chase



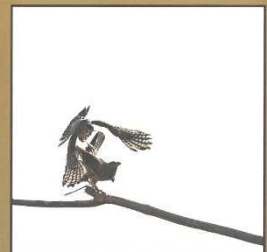
4. The adult female prepares for the aerial food pass as her son closes in

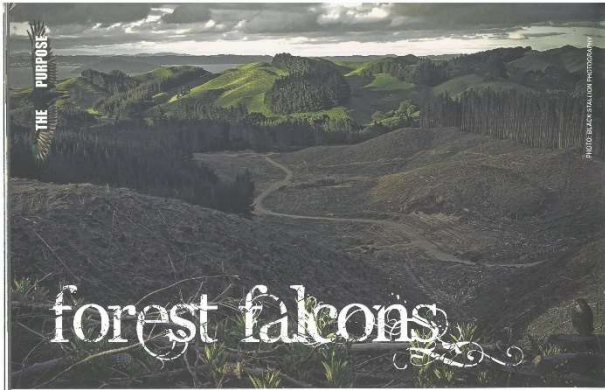


5. The adult female drops the prey in an aerial food pass; the juvenile dives to capture it



6. He successfully takes the prey in mid air and fires off with dinner trussed firmly in his talons





The Kārearea falcon, is a threatened protected species that is only found in New Zealand. Widespread habitat loss has been identified as one factor in the decline of falcon populations, yet this species appears to be thriving in some plantation forests.

Wingspan can back this with sound experience and robust academic research. Staff and volunteers have been monitoring falcons within Kaingaroa Forest for more than 20 years on an annual basis, marking the study area as one of the longest continual monitoring conservation projects in New Zealand - the research supported by two PhD studies, a Masters, Post-graduate work, and around 10 different published papers.

Kārearea evolved in New Zealand without mammal pests such as feral cats, rats, possums, stoats and hedgehogs. Because of this, they often lay their eggs on the ground in a 'scrape' or nest which makes their eggs and small chicks vulnerable to being attacked.

The reason Kārearea choose to live in pine forests is that new plantings and mature trees are used by the birds throughout their lives. The tall mature trees are great vantage points for falcons to watch over their territory, and watch for food to hunt.

The 'cut over' areas, where trees have been cut down, are perfect for falcons to nest in because they have lots of little

hiding spots. These areas also have high prey densities and are a great place for young falcons to start learning to fly and hunt. They will start by jumping up and climbing onto logs, and eventually flying up to the bigger trees. They chase insects and small birds, and the parent birds encourage their chicks to chase them holding food in their talons, or they deliver food to the nest. It pays to be the biggest, loudest and fastest falcon chick in the nest.



16 | CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international, independent, non-government organisation based in Germany with 112 member countries.

FSC promotes sustainable, holistic forest management. It was established in 1994 to address deforestation which was known to be hastening climate change and destroying habitats of people and wildlife.

According to FSC Australia and New Zealand CEO Adam Beaumont, New Zealand is one of the foremost FSC-certified countries in the world in terms of wood supply, and paper products.



18 | CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

The discovery of falcons breeding in pine plantations has 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 (FSC) requirements and by reinforcing their public image as responsible environmental stewards. In short, this means that international markets, and buyers, for wood and paper products can have confidence that conservation and environmental standards are in place.

Wingspan is in partnership with Kaingaroa Timberlands supporting Kārearea. The New Zealand falcon is 'the panda of the forest' and in terms of recognising that birds of prey are the barometers of the environment, the falcons have become the coalmine canaries.

Every year Wingspan is approached by FSC auditors, such as crown research group 'Scion' about forestry implications for an endemic species. There are three other sign offs for forest estate managers in the North Island, along with communications with the New Zealand Forest Owners Association.

The falcons habit of nesting on the ground can on occasion result in forestry operations disturbing or damaging nests. On the rare occasion that forestry operations encounter nesting falcons, protocols are followed to mitigate any potentially negative effects.

Negative impacts to falcon breeding can occur when mechanical operations such as tree harvesting, road construction (including skid sites), or land preparation (e.g. wind rowing) occur near an active falcon nest causing disturbance at the nest or of the adult birds. This is especially the case during the time that falcons are incubating eggs or brooding young that are less than two weeks old.

To avoid impacting falcon breeding success, forest managers recommend that all mechanical operations are excluded from within 200m (line of sight) of a falcon nest for the whole time during nesting sensitivity.

Check out the Wingspan website for more information.

<http://wingspan.co.nz/PDF/Forestry-Management-Protocols-final.pdf>



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Research by Micah Scholer

Human modified landscapes are everywhere around us from the urban and rural centers in which we live to the fields and farms where we grow the food and fabrics of our nations. A key aspect of conservation of plants and animals therefore is understanding how these landscapes, along with existing natural habitats, can be used or enhanced to help support native species. In particular, the value of commercial pine plantations as habitat for native wildlife is being increasingly well recognised.

In New Zealand, pine plantations amount to roughly 20% of the country's total forest cover; a good amount of potential habitat! Most plantations consist of just a single tree species, typically Radiata Pine, and are managed as even-aged stands. After 25 years of age, trees are ready for harvest and are clear-felled leaving a mosaic of different age blocks of pine across the landscape.

For the New Zealand Bush Falcon, this is good news. Bush falcons have been found to nest on or near the ground in recently cut pine stands where they use the surrounding open areas and edges of older-aged forests to hunt songbirds. Since the 1990's Wingspan has helped monitor populations of falcons breeding in one of the largest pine plantations in the southern hemisphere: Kaingaroa Forest. This work has resulted in the location of more than 200 active nests over the years.

Here is where I come into the picture. I am a graduate student studying avian conservation at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Until now I was familiar with most conservation success stories involving the setting aside of large tracts of protected land, restoring native habitat, or some combination thereof. The endgame and message were usually the same; things had to be as close back to the way they used to be in order for conservation to work. But here was a falcon, once threatened with loss of habitat, now making a go at nesting in non-native forests and feeding primarily off of introduced European birds and mammals. What?! I was intrigued and wanted to find out more about this conservation story. My goal was to team up with Wingspan and Kaingaroa Timberlands, the managers of Kaingaroa Forest, to help understand what features of the landscape falcons might be using to select where they put their nests in these human-modified landscapes.

To accomplish this, I chose different measurements that characterised where nests were found and where they were not. These measurements were either related to topography, such as elevation and aspect, forest structure and age, such as the amount of cleared forest surrounding each nest, or level of disturbance, such as the distance of a nest to the nearest trafficked road. I combined 11 such measurements from known nest locations to see which ones best explained the patterns of nest occurrence in Kaingaroa Forest.

The most important predictor of falcon nests was the amount of cleared and young forest (<5 years of age) within 500m. Encountering a falcon nest increased steadily with increasing amount of cleared and young pine until at least 40% of the overall area consisted of this land cover type. This finding supports the work of other researchers of New Zealand Bush falcons who also indicated that cleared and young pine were associated with falcon nests.

In order to help identify where these potentially good nesting areas were in Kaingaroa, I developed a map combining the different landscape measurements in a Geographic Information System. The resulting map uses what we know of where falcons have put their nests in the past to make predictions about where they will be found in the future (Figure 1). Areas in blue represent locations with a high probability of a nest occurring while those areas in green are less likely to have nests.

Within these clear-fell areas, other factors like elevation and the ruggedness of the terrain determine where falcons chose to put their nests. Providing forest managers with maps like this can help them avoid disturbing nesting falcons during the breeding season and improve the efficiency of nest monitoring efforts.

Conserving biodiversity cannot be accomplished solely by relying on areas that have been set aside or designated as protected and partnerships such as those between Wingspan and Kaingaroa Timberlands are a great example of how industry and conservation organisations can work together to keep birds like the New Zealand Falcon flying high.

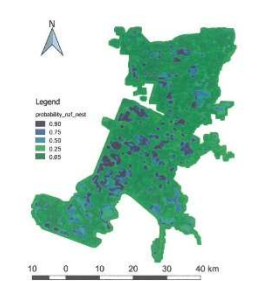
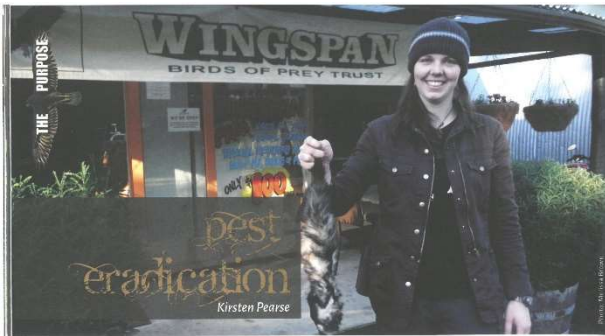


Figure 1 - Varying age stands of Radiata Pine in Kaingaroa Forest and probability of nest occurrence. North is up.

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There is no denying that pests are a huge problem in New Zealand. Most of us are privy to the devastation and destruction that many introduced mammalian pest species have left in their wake since the moment they arrived. Each year alone it has been estimated that around 25 million birds, including Ruru, Kahu and Karearea, are killed as a result of introduced pests.

In less than 250 years, nearly half of New Zealand's indigenous wildlife has been wiped from existence leaving behind only stories and legends of 'what once was', including a few unique birds of prey - the Laughing Owl and Eyle's Harrier.

Despite these catastrophic consequences, many people today are doing some incredible work to ensure that no more of our unique birdlife is lost. This has led to a flurry of new slogans and campaigns including bringing back the Dawn Chorus and Battle of the Birds. One more recent campaign has included a predator-free NZ by 2050. It is understandable that most introduced pests are indeed predators, however the title of being 'Predator Free' is misleading and isn't an accurate representation of what New Zealand was like before any invasion of pests. There were in fact predators - just more the feathery kind. This included the legendary Haast eagle, New Zealand falcon, hawks and owls, all of whom are predators.

Our point is simply that being 'Pest Free' is a more accurate representation of where we would like to see New Zealand at some point in the future.

Wingspan itself has been active in eradicating pests for

some time now. This has included trapping rodents, magpies, feral cats, possums, even the removal of three huge wasp nests. However, after the sad loss of one of our beloved harriers, we decided to initiate a more structured on-site Pest Eradication Programme (PEP). This has included the set-up of various snap traps and tunnel traps around our centre, which seem to be showing signs of increased success. At the end of summer, over a two-month period of initiating the programme, we successfully caught there and 40 less that will breed and increase their numbers in the future.

Our main aim is to protect our birds here on-site. However, our actions will leave a much broader impression, or 'halo effect', impacting the environment surrounding us. Although our PEP project is small, we know that essentially the 40 pests that we caught are 40 less wreaking havoc out there and 40 less that will breed and increase their numbers in the future.

Even now, many have started to notice that with the constant trapping of possums and feral cats and now the removal of ferrets and stoats, local biodiversity and the native wildlife around the Wingspan site has started to return. From wild moreporks to nesting White faced herons and kingfishers and even the occasional visits by kaka and kereru. We've had the odd visit from other wild falcons, large flocks of wax-eyes and the most recent being North Island Robins singing in the trees like canaries.

It is true that the government's goal to have NZ pest free by 2050 is somewhat ambitious but Wingspan is keen to jump on board and do its small part in getting NZ there. After all

if everyone did their own small PEP project at home then not only would we be well on our way to bringing back that incredible Dawn Chorus that Joseph Banks mentioned almost 250 years ago, but we'd be giving New Zealand raptors a fighting chance and a very bright future. In this way, even our future generations will get the opportunity to embrace our native biodiversity.

facts

- Ruru potentially suffer a sex bias as a result of females being attacked whilst on their nests.
- Kahu and Karearea have excellent diurnal vision but poor nocturnal vision making them very vulnerable to attacks from introduced mammalian pest species such as cats, pigs, dogs, and mustelids.
- The legendary Haast Eagle or Pouakai, with a wingspan of 2-3 metres and weighing in at 13 kg is said to have been one of the largest eagles to have ever lived!
- The Eyle's Harrier was four times the weight of the NZ Swamp Harrier, making it the largest species of Harrier to have ever lived!
- Predator v's Pest: A predator is an animal that naturally preys on other animals. The definition of a pest is an introduced destructive insect or animal that attacks crops, food, livestock and native wildlife.



thank you
Key Industries
 Protecting people, crops and native species
 for trapping contributions

The great Ozventure

A PHOTO ESSAY BY HEIDI STOOK PHOTOGRAPHIC CREDIT: SHELLY MCGOWAN

THE PEOPLE

IN EARLY JULY I FLEW ACROSS THE DUTCH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT DIFFERENT BIRD OF PREY SPECIES. FAIRLY SPOILT FOR CHOICE THOSE AUSTRALIANS!

FIRST STOP WAS RAPTOR DOMAIN ON KANGAROO ISLAND. IF YOU ARE EVER ANYWHERE NEAR ADELAIDE, A FERRY TRIP ACROSS TO THE ISLAND IS A MUST. TO VISIT DAVE & LEEZA IRWIN AND THE TEAM AT RAPTOR DOMAIN WHAT AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE.

MIKE & MAL Blue-wing Kookaburra

MATILDA Masked Owl

OMEN Booty Owl

EYLLIE - Hobby Falcon

PEARL - White Goshawk

NELLY Wedge-tailed Eagle

NOTHING IN THIS WORLD COULD HAVE PREPARED ME FOR MEETING MY FIRST WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE. THE PRESENCE OF THESE UTTERLY MAGNIFICENT BIRDS IS BREATHTAKING.

RAPTOR DOMAIN CURRENTLY HOLDS FOUR WEDGE-TAILS. JEDDA, TELKA, JACK AND NELLY. I HAD THE HONOUR OF HOLDING NELLY AND ABSOLUTE PRIVILEGE OF WATCHING TELKA GO FOR A MORNING 'RABBIT LUKE' FLY UNDER SOME STORMY LOOKING SKIES LIFE CHANGING.



AND - IF YOU THOUGHT OUR NEW ZEALAND FALCON WERE FAST, YOU HAVE TO SEE A PEREGRINE IN ACTION. SHELLY AND HER CAMERA COULD BARELY KEEP UP - THIS IS BY ALL MEANS THE WORLD'S FASTEST! WE WERE TREATED TO WATCHING HER FLY TO THE LURE, AND ON ONE OCCASION - THIS LURE WAS SET EXTREMELY HIGH VIA DRONE POWER. SHE WAITED IT EVERY TIME IN ABSOLUTELY SPECTACULAR FASHION. DID I MENTION RAPTOR DOMAIN IS A MUST SEE!



Raptor Domain Kangaroo Island

24 | CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



A DAY TRIP TO HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY ON THE WAY HOME WAS A NICE OPPORTUNITY TO CATCH A FEW MORE OF THESE MAGNIFICENT BIRDS IN FLIGHT DOING WHAT THEY DO BEST! WITH THE TRIP NEARING AN END IT WAS TIME TO DO SOME FLYING OF MY OWN - THE BIG TIM CAN KIND. SAFELY BACK HOME AT WINGSPAN, LOADED WITH NEW KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE AND READY, MORE THAN EVER TO GET BEHIND THE LURE AND FLY MY OWN BEAUTIFUL BIRDS AGAIN!!



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THE PEOPLE



our stories

KORTEN KOSHY YOHANNAN - ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

RAISED IN SINGAPORE, BROUGHT UP IN INDIA, EDUCATED IN INDIA AND SCOTLAND, WORKED IN INDIA, SAUDI ARAB AND SCOTLAND IN MARKETING AND ADVERTISING, HAVE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHING WILDLIFE AND BIRDS FOR CLOSE TO 10 YEARS IN INDIA, THE MIDDLE EAST, SCOTLAND, SHERLAND ISLANDS AND NOW IN NEW ZEALAND.

ZEALAND'S SHORTS, DAVE WISS TO YES! SPECIAL PROJECT, PLANTED THE RAPTOR BUG IN ME AND I TOLD MISSY THAT THIS IS WHERE I WOULD LOVE TO WORK. IF AN OPPORTUNITY AROSE, NOW WORKING FULL-TIME AS THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER AT WINGSPAN I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MARK MY INTERESTS IN CONSERVATION, BUSINESS AND PHOTOGRAPHY. DREAM, PURSUE, AND KEEP THE FAITH AND DREAMS BECOME A REALITY.



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te hokinga mai the return home

Melissa Brown - Community Liaison Officer

My story could be described as somewhat of a "migration". Born and bred in Rotorua, I left the land of geysers and mudpools and headed north where Whangarei was my home for three years. The warmer climate and the beautiful beaches (loaded with kaimoana (seafood)) meant that during that time, my life revolved around these.

I became involved in different environmental campaigns raising awareness around protecting and conserving our biodiversity. I went on to gain my open water scuba diving certificate and had plans of jumping on a boat and sailing off to the islands to monitor the health of the reefs and help villages that have suffered due to the effects of climate change however that was not to be.

After a series of serendipitous events I felt the call home. I had been back for two weeks when a job opportunity showed up in my email inbox - an internship at Wingspan. Even though I had no experience of working with birds of prey, I decided that this was meant to be and sent my CV in faster than a falcon can fly.

A couple of weeks later I was advised that I had been shortlisted and the next step was an interview. Yay! After spending most of my years growing up in the area, I was finally going to get around to visiting Wingspan.

mangled mess on the side of the road or soaring in the big blue yonder.



Debbie took me for a walk through the museum and aviaries before we sat down outside for the actual "interview". The question was asked, "... so why do you want to work at Wingspan?" I had spent the last couple of weeks going over what I would say however my reply was "ummmm. Because, I've got this thing. With birds and feathers..." I felt like such an idiot - so to recover I followed it up with "you know like a connection? They tend to show up for me at significant times." I wanted the ground to open up and swallow me. I had just said the stupidest sounding response for a job interview. Next minute, Debbie excused herself to get her bird ready for the flight display while I was left to ponder what I had just said. Enter Ozzy, the "career kairara", the first falcon (got to hold on to the glove. After half an hour watching Wingspan's famous flight display, I was almost an expert on falcons. Ozzy put himself away and our interview continued.

Well something must have worked. I got the call back to say I got the job! I was stoked. Laughing and crying at the same time. The emotional rollercoaster ride of working with birds of prey had begun. I suppose it would be safe to say that I go through the most tissues at work. Just as well we are sponsored by Kleenex.

On that note, I would like to acknowledge and thank our Wingspan Whanau for giving me a shot. For sharing knowledge and passion for NZ birds of prey, understanding the wairua (spiritual) side and for being able to interpret the unsaid into something logical. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to learn something new. This is not only a job, it's a calling, a purpose.

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Kirston Peares - Research/Volunteer Co-ordinator

Just like many people you'll meet when you walk through the doors here at Wingspan, I've always had a fascination and intrigue about the world that we live in.

Growing up, my family and I moved around a lot. With each new place that we called home we found countless opportunities to see new places, make new friends and experience the different cultures, customs and languages. Each day was an adventure for myself and my siblings. The part that I relished the most was the discovery of new and exciting fauna and flora in the backyard. Whether it was looking under rocks for scorpions in the dry and open savannahs of Africa or watching small songbirds fly across the rolling green hills of Ireland, my home was always in nature.

When we arrived in Aotearoa, a whole other world opened up for me. With a passion to learn about the strange and unique creatures of the world, I came to realise that New Zealand was in a league unto its own. There were snails that slurped up worms for tea, large, flightless, peach smelling nocturnal parrots, frogs that have no tadpole stage, and even lizards with a third "eye" on the top of its head! It was a land dominated by birds some of which were found nowhere else in the world. Seriously, what a fantastic place to be!

An old saying that we always used growing up was "Home is where the heart is". As I learned more about New Zealand's wildlife, my heart grew all the fonder of this incredible land. So much so, I became concerned when I realised how much of it was under threat. As soon as I finished school I made it my goal to learn more and went straight into further studies. I realised that if we wanted to care for and protect our environment, then we needed to know how it works and operate by its rules.

Not far into my first year at Teitōhono, my tutor recommended that I sign up for a week of volunteer work at Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre. Intrigued, I did and I found myself falling in love with the birds and the

mission that Wingspan pursues, that for almost four years after, I just kept coming back. I took every excuse and opportunity I possibly could to visit or volunteer between my studies and work. Learning about the ancient art of falconry, conservation of New Zealand's raptors and of course watching New Zealand's fastest bird take to the skies - who wouldn't want to keep coming back!

Just before I was set to graduate from Waikato University in 2016, I was approached for an opportunity of a life time - asked if I would be keen to join the team at Wingspan. I still remember being taken back, having no words to say. I stood staring like a deer in the headlights. As professionally as I possibly could, I smiled and said that it would be amazing and that I would be honoured to.

Now the youngest full-time member of the Wingspan Whanau and the new "Eyes" of the team, every day is full of new experiences, challenges, and of course, clever, crafty Kārearea sure to keep you on your toes! If 'Home is where the heart is', then mine is with Wingspan, the birds and the people that work here.

"On land and in the sea, our fore-fathers lived and survived in this environment. They were able to do so because they recognised the need to conserve it, to take from it only what they needed to live, and to preserve it for succeeding generations."

-Sheikh Sayed Bin Sultan Al Mahyan



PHOTO: WINGSPAN

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awards art & culture



LOCAL HERO - NOEL HYDE

As part of the KiwiBank New Zealander of the Year Awards 2017, everyday people doing exceptional things were the toast of the town as Rotorua honoured its very own "Local Heroes".

With 40 years' experience, Noel Hyde is one of New Zealand's most talented and well-respected wildlife taxidermists. He is also one of New Zealand's first research museum preparators having completed more than 3,000 specimens.

Noel was chairman of Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre from 2008-2014 and he remains involved as a Trustee.

He is a recognised expert in feather identification and has completed research and education taxidermy projects for Te Papa and other museums around the country. His expertise has also been sought after by the Department of Conservation and Kelly Tarlton's.

Noel is also a published author and co-author of academic research papers and has represented Wingspan and New Zealand internationally in raptor research and falconry.

Very much a specialist in his field, Noel has made his name on a global scale and his commitment to wildlife here in New Zealand makes him a local hero to many in the Rotorua region.

RAPTOR CONSERVATION AWARD

Conservation Week throughout New Zealand is also when the Wingspan Birds of Prey Trust Board formally recognises individuals who have made significant contribution towards the conservation, research, and public awareness of birds of prey, with the presentation of the annual Raptor Award.

In a surprise announcement, hosted by the Rotorua Museum in September 2016, Betty Shepherd became the 13th recipient of the award. Perhaps not such a surprise for guests, everyone knew except for Betty, who thought it was just another meeting!

Betty Shepherd has been stalking the falcons of Whakarewarewa Forest since 2012. Every season, she has tirelessly looked out for and protected, photographed, monitored, and recorded the breeding activity of numbers of Kārearea NZ falcon. She has cut her holidays short just to get back into the forest, and when she tells husband Roger she'll be back in half an hour, he rolls his eyes... 4 hours later she's back!



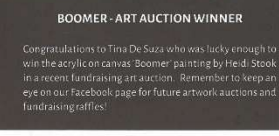
WHISPER - GORDON PEMBRIDGE

Award winning artist Gordan Pembridge (2nd placement in the 2017 Easter Show) has Whisper prints for sale on-site at Wingspan. Head in to have a closer look at these amazing artwork prints.



congratulations KATH MCINDOE

The lucky winner of Te Huiatahi, first born son of Huiatapu and Māia. A fine art print by Black Stallion Photography. All proceeds from this raffie went directly to helping conserve our birds of prey. Keep an eye out for Wingspan's future fundraising art raffies!



BOOMER - ART AUCTION WINNER

Congratulations to Tina De Souza who was lucky enough to win the acrylic on canvas 'Boomer' painting by Heidi Stook in a recent fundraising auction. Remember to keep an eye on our Facebook page for future artwork auctions and fundraising raffies!



KAHU-TŪHOE HUATA

Last year I graduated with a Master's in Education from Te Whānanga o Raukawa. During the second half of the year, my mother Ngāimiro Huata decided to make a kahu koroa and ipāho (ceremonial kilt) for my graduation. When she completed the two garments, she felt that she needed to make a ceremonial head piece similar to that of our ancestor Māta Rauropoko, chief of Te Whakarewarewa. The feathers needed to be Kāhu and of a particular size. She called Wingspan in Rotorua and we were presented with some fallen Kāhu feathers that were collected over time.

Nōku te whōwhō e hua mai ko kōwhiri te reiporo hōpūhōpū o te kaitiaki mānu. Tihōwa Māaitōra Kōngi ki a kōwhiri kōwhiri, Tūhoe Huata.

here & there

THE PEOPLE

WHETU IS A STAR - WORLD FAMOUS @ WINGSPAN
A commission for a short television documentary by the Natural History New Zealand, found Producer-Cameraman Adam Jones getting up-close and personal with Whetu the runu morepork owl. Night-time action was recorded of Whetu flying, landing and eating her favourite diners like moths and wetas. The cameo performance will screen on national television at the end of the year.

WINGS PAN IS ON THE MONEY!
A presentation by Reserve Bank of New Zealand executives Steve Gordon (Head of Currency) and Chris Humphries (Operations Manager) say thanks to Wingspan. A special framed photo of NZ falcon Shaheena who personally attended the bank's launch at Government House, with an unarticulated collector's bank note (collected with a set of a number of 1992 to commemorate the start of Wingspan's journey!).

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THE EAGLE HUNTRESS

A great night had by all at a special Wingspan screening of the documentary 'The Eagle Huntress', an awesome movie and fundraiser. To add to the theme of the evening, props from the Wingspan museum collection, including the mounted wedge-tailed eagle and Mongolian fox fur lined hat, had everyone trying to look like the star Aisholpan! A big smile of support from Life member Lee Ormsby!

SORRY OFFICER - I WAS NOT SPEEDING!
A special appearance by Fran the Australasian harrier in Ohakune, with Sergeant Michael Craig of the New Zealand Police and Noel Hyde. Noticket issued.

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TE AWAMUTU PRIMARY SCHOOL

Te Awamutu Primary School 'launched' their new school mascot earlier this year, a karearea named 'Manaki'. The introduction of this new school mascot envisaged to help students connect to the school motto and values. The school motto is 'Kia Kaha - Be Strong', and links directly with the wild karearea, New Zealand falcons at Kakepuku Reserve, Mount Porongia, and Maungatautari Sanctuary.

Further, a relationship between Wingspan and the school's senior leaders is to be an annual event, where Year 6 (amazing 10/11 year old students) are to be ambassadors for the falcon, and will have a karearea experience at Wingspan to empower them as leaders.

RUAPEHU COLLEGE VISIT
CACTUS is a well-established programme implemented nationwide with a record of developing high school students' physical and mental wellbeing, and assisting youth in their personal development. The programme includes project partners New Zealand Police and New Zealand Army working closely with Ruapehu College.

As part of this programme, guest speakers as mentors, are invited to participate to share stories and challenge the students so they find their purpose, pursue their dreams, and grasp their self-worth. To this end, Wingspan representatives, Noel Hyde and Debbie Stewart along with 'Fran', gave a special surprise appearance supporting the programme.

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wingspan welcomes visitors

THE PEOPLE

AWESOME! A WINGS PAN JOB YOU ARE DOING TO FELLOW & MAJESTIC BIRD
GAY FAMILY GASTOWN WAIKARARA

LOVELY DISPLAY - KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK - FABULOUS AND INSPIRING AND DELICIOUS!
KIVA BANHARD UPPER HUTI

AWESOME AS ALWAYS LOVE 'EM FEATHERS
MAHARAT & PAUL REIDARSON GUCKLAND

WORTH EVERY CENT ANYONE AND INFORMATION THANK YOU SO MUCH
TREV & GEORGE WAIKARARA

BEST BIRTHDAY EVER
FRANK & BEZ TALLANGA AND ROTORUA

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volunteers & acknowledgements

THE PEOPLE

With only a small staff team, volunteers have remained a vital part of the Wingspan programme right from the beginning. This year alone we have recorded well over 800 hours of volunteer work, the highest it's been! We've also had a great number of off-site volunteers and supporters who have provided an immense effort with the research and monitoring of wild and released birds.

To all those who have sacrificed their time and dedicated their days to helping Wingspan and the conservation of New Zealand's birds of prey, we salute you! You have been the wind beneath our wings and we wouldn't be where we are today without you.

Special thanks to the staff and volunteers of Rotorua Museum who have for five years, watched out for, and supplemented the 'On the Wing' falcons in the grounds of the Government Gardens.

A big thanks to our research volunteers Betty Shepherd, Steve Lawrence and Micah Scholer. Betty Shepherd has continued to dedicate her time to keeping a watchful eye over our 'Redwood Forest' falcon families and keeping us well informed. We've enjoyed hearing all about her amazing experiences watching each juvenile grow and quickly take to the skies. You're an inspiration to us Betty and we can sleep at ease knowing that you're out there keeping a watchful eye on our beloved falcons.

Micah Scholer, a research student over from the University of British Columbia, Canada, has dedicated time into researching New Zealand falcons. Micah spent two

months with Wingspan, both on-site and off-site, captivated to learn more about falcon and their nest sites. During this time he quickly integrated to become a part of the Wingspan Whanaua! Thanks Micah for all your work and insight and we wish you all the best with the rest of your studies.

Kirsten Pearce

Volunteer contributions also extend to providing food & things we need! Each year, food items are donated to feed our birds. Indeed, the hunters help the hunters, with food items such as duck, pukeko, feral pigeons, rabbits and hare and various other items being donated each year.

- Equipment:** Jim Chick (UK) - Radio telemetry, Gus Knopers - Pest traps
- Plants:** Kalima Garden Centre, Rawy and Ian Simpson
- Food:** Ric Broadhurst, Bobby Smith, Wini Simpkins (for mice donations for our owls), Hillary Priest, Rachel Lang, Madison Leigh, Nigel Wadham, Ron Watts, Gabby and Lyall Keyte, Richard Mallison, Peter Ellery, Shirley McGregor, Dave Hatchings, Gabby & Lyall Keyte, Chris van Beek, Fifi & Carme Staff
- Fundraising:** Kahurangi School, Te Awamutu School
- Services:** Jansen Computer Systems
- Retail:** Black Stallion Photography - canvas and calendars, Wendy Goodwin - artwork and gift cards, John Deal - Pens & Umbrellas



THANK YOU



On-site Volunteers:
Megan Abbott, Shelly McGowan, Rachel Lee, Lisa Beasley, Audrea Gariglio, Danielle Murphy, Lorenzo Gariglio, Jarred Cook, Talia Dent, Zoe Mackness, Jason Wills, Amy Taylor, Marion Fitzsimon

Research Volunteers:
Steve Lawrence, Micah Scholer, Shane McPherson, Betty Shepherd and Bud Anderson

falcon sightings

Kirsten Pearce

Every year Wingspan receives the delightful accounts of many passionate falcon spotters and their thrilling experiences with one of New Zealand's beloved raptors.

Here are some amazing stories from such people whose days were made all the merrier with a visit from our beloved Kārearea over the last year!

As most of us will know, there is an estimated 2000 falcon left out in the wild so having the opportunity to see one in your own backyard is a very special experience indeed! Experiences that all Wingspan members enjoy being a part of whenever we receive the stories and accounts from excited spotters. So we'll want to send a big 'Thank You' to all who have reported their falcon sightings and for being our eyes in the skies. It's thanks to people like yourselves we are able to keep a close watch on falcon numbers, locations and conditions.



IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW HAS SEEN THESE WONDERFUL BIRDS, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT IT. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR EMAIL US HERE AT WINGSSPAN@GMAIL.COM

DETAILS WE NEED INCLUDE:

- DATE OBSERVED
- LOCATION (FROM GOOGLE MAPS)
- NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN
- DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY OBSERVED

POP US A LINK, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU & IF YOU ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO CAPTURE A PHOTO - IT COULD BE THE NEXT FEATHER IN OUR NEXT WINGSPAN JOURNAL EDITION!

FEBRUARY-2017
While at Hamner Springs for our wedding anniversary, we went on a walk to the top of Mount Isabel which was fantastic. But what made it even more delightful was seeing a pair of Kārearea flying around making a loud ruckus. It was great. What was great to see was that not only was there a male flying around making all the noise up high and fluttering his wings in a show off fashion! It was just magic, then the larger female was gliding past me about two metres away as I walked along the track. It was great to be able to share with the other people walking on the track, a little of our knowledge of the birds who were taking in the birds' presence for granted until we told them how rare they are.

SPOTTERS - RYAN & LAURA THOMAS



ROBINSONS - WAIKATO

KATEZONA WILLIAMSON - GOLDEN BAY

FEBRUARY-2017

I was doing some work with the neighbouring dairy farmer with wetland restoration works when I heard one of the falcon pair keeking and circling above a barrier. After about a minute this falcon flew off towards the forestry and was met with its partner. I suggest they would be nesting somewhere very close by as there is some nice steep land with one or two year old pine trees planted on it. This was an exciting highlight of my working day!

SPOTTER-ANDREW THOMAS, TOKOROA



DO MATTHEWS - CANTERBURY

KAITIKI - MANAWATU GORGE

SEPTEMBER-2016
I was sitting inside reading when I heard the distinct call of a falcon, kek-kek-kek-kek. I rushed outside (yes, rushed!) and looked in the direction of the calls. A falcon was to the east of our house, over the soccer grounds, quite high up, about 200m. It was flying with quite rapid wingbeats towards the west, it would then circle, quite tightly, without calling and then fly on, calling. This happened a number of times before it gained altitude and flew off towards town (west). Its wingbeat was the fastest I have seen to date.

SPOTTER-KATEHOWIE, TAUPŌ

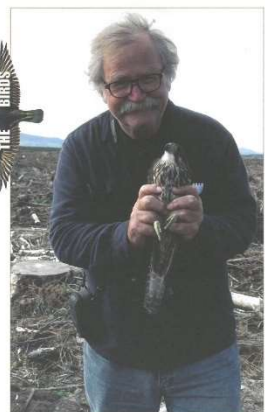
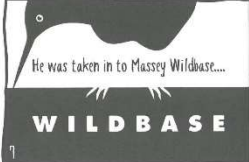
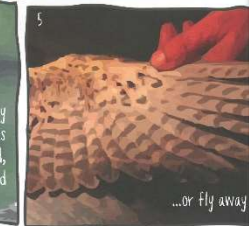
SEPTEMBER-2016
Falcon sighted flying slowly west just above tree height, very distinctive profile and flight, no confusion with other raptors. This may be old hat to you but it's the first falcon I've sighted in this area since 25 plus years ago.

SPOTTER-ADRIAN RICKARDS, TURANGI

DECEMBER-2016
About 6:00 last night, the birds around our place just started going ballistic - tails screaming, blackbirds and starlings squawking, and everything else joining in and flying round excitedly. When we looked at what was causing the commotion we found a New Zealand falcon sitting in a tree. It made a couple of short flights which attracted all the birds like bees round a honeypot! We were standing on our deck and the falcon flew past about 2m away followed by its cast of followers. We didn't notice any bandson its legs. So pretty exciting.

SPOTTER-WAYNE MILLER, LAKE TARAWERA

the story of **Ka kite** the falcon



Sponsorship of wild raptors helps contribute to Wingspan's work in the wild including nest monitoring, rescues and releases. We thank the following members for their support.

- WHAKAREWAREWA FALCONS:**
Reid Samson (gifted by Victoria Allwood)
Judith Bowen
Inanga Clark
Robin & Doreen Cutts
Donovan Kelso (gifted by Kate Williams)
Pilkington Family
Pan Pacific Travel - Auckland

- KAINGARO A FALCONS:**
Julie Loveridge

- MARLBOROUGH FALCONS:**
Leanne McLean
Stephen & Sandra King



During September 2016 a morepork (pictured above) was brought into Wingspan by Shane O'Driscoll. It is suspected the bird had been hit by a car. His initial assessment showed no fractures or external injury but he was slow in his responses.

He was weak at first, and needing help to eat over the first few days, but his responses started to quicken with a lot of care from the Wingspan team. Good news!

He rested at Wingspan for three weeks, and was well fed during his recovery. As his condition improved he was moved into a larger aviary space, to test his flight prior to release. Given the 'all clear' we called Shane with the great news.

If you are ever around the Dansey Road area, Mamaku, and you hear the call of a ruru, there is a good chance it is this little fellow.



Marighteye and Malefeye are two little owls that were relocated from Oxford Bird Rescue to Wingspan during February, 2017. They are un-related but both have something in common. Both birds have severe eye damage.

Malefeye was found just outside of Ashburton, sitting on the ground at a residential address. The left eye was completely closed, and weight low.

Marighteye was treated for a blow to the head before being transferred to Wingspan and has a bad injury to the right eye.

Both birds are now resting comfortably under the care of the Wingspan team.

SIREN 16/7/76 Training Diary

ARKIVED @ WINGSPAN 22/10/16 (APPROX 5 DPTS OLD)

16/02/2017 - DAY 3

9:30AM ENTERED NEWS AND PLACED A TID-BIT ON WINDOW PERCH. SHE JUMPED DOWN AND ATE! MADE IT TO HER ALONG LEASH LINE WITH CHICKEN LEG IN CLOVE. PANIC! BREAK OUT!! CALMED & SECURED TO CLOVE. BATE. BATE. BATE. BATE. FOLLOWED BY MOMENTS OF CALM. ADDED FOOD. BATE. BATE. BATE. BATE. BATE... SHE **hates** ME!!



17/02/2017 - DAY 4

11:45AM WENT FOR A WALK IN THE SUN DOWN TO FLYING PADDOCK. POPPED A TID-BIT ONTO THE MAIN POST & SHE JUMPED DOWN TO IT (NEST) WITH ONE FOOT STILL GRABBING THE CLOVE. STEPPED HER BACK TO THE CLOVE. POPPED ANOTHER DOWN AND SHE JUMPED TO IT. BOTH FEET! JUMP TO POST - EAST! JUMP TO CLOVE - WEST ON THE LESH!

4:00PM JUMPS TO FENCE POST, JUMPS TO CLOVE, AND REPEAT AWESOME!! FLIPPAN AWESOME!!! SHE GOT DISTRACTED ONCE WHILE ON THE POST & WAS LOOKING WAYWARD, BUT I SIMPLY MOVED MY FEET BACK IN FRONT OF HER. PEPPED WHISTLE. TAPPED & CALLED AND BOOM - SHE WAS ON THE FEET AGAIN!! THIS BIRD! CELEBRATE TOMORROW!

18/02/2017 - DAY 5

FEARED HER UP ON THE CREANCE. SHE WAS KEEN AS - FORCEFUL JUMP TO THE FEET. EAST TO WELCH. JUMPED TO POST TO POST. TOO EAST. BITCHER. JUMPS AWESOME! I RAN... GAINED (SOME) DISTANCE. MAYBE TM. WANTED MORE BUT SHE WAS ALL OVER ME. SO BREAKING COOL MAN. SHE LANDS WITH PUNCH. LOVE IT!!

19/02/2017 - DAY 6

12:00PM JUST WORKED HER ONCE TODAY. SHE WAS OVER EXCITED AND ENDED UP HANGING ON THE INSIDE OF MY ARM. TRIED TO SMATCH & GRAB AN IMPACT CLOVE. HAD TO SETTLE TO WELCH. BROUGHT OUT ON CREANCE. FLIGHT TO POST THEN TO LURE. BOOM. CREANCE REMOVED!! FREE FLOW!! SHE DID AWESOME. GOT THE LENGTH OF THE PADDOCK WORTH!

20/02/2017 - DAY 7

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

21/02/2017 - DAY 8

12:00PM JUST WORKED HER ONCE TODAY. SHE WAS OVER EXCITED AND ENDED UP HANGING ON THE INSIDE OF MY ARM. TRIED TO SMATCH & GRAB AN IMPACT CLOVE. HAD TO SETTLE TO WELCH. BROUGHT OUT ON CREANCE. FLIGHT TO POST THEN TO LURE. BOOM. CREANCE REMOVED!! FREE FLOW!! SHE DID AWESOME. GOT THE LENGTH OF THE PADDOCK WORTH!

22/02/2017 - DAY 9

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

23/02/2017 - DAY 10

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

24/02/2017 - DAY 11

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

25/02/2017 - DAY 12

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

26/02/2017 - DAY 13

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

27/02/2017 - DAY 14

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

28/02/2017 - DAY 15

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

29/02/2017 - DAY 16

12:00PM VERY AMED. VERY EAGER. A LITTLE BITTY LIES MOUNTING. LOWER WELCH. TESTERDAY'S STIMULATION BURNED SOME CALSH. FLEW TO LURE. SMALL PASS! THEN FLEW TO FENCE. & OVER TO HOUSE. I RAN! TRIED TO CALL HER OFF A PONGKA TO THE LURE. SHE WAS SHOOKED. EYES WIERD. WHAT HAD SHE SEEN! FLEW TOWARDS BANY-BELL. WOODOOOOO. LURED FOR HOURS. NEVER SAW HER. BROKEN. LEFT HOOD ON POST OVERNIGHT.

16/02/2017 - DAY 3 (10AM DAY 3)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

17/02/2017 - DAY 4 (10AM DAY 4)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

18/02/2017 - DAY 5 (10AM DAY 5)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

19/02/2017 - DAY 6 (10AM DAY 6)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

20/02/2017 - DAY 7 (10AM DAY 7)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

21/02/2017 - DAY 8 (10AM DAY 8)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

22/02/2017 - DAY 9 (10AM DAY 9)

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23/02/2017 - DAY 10 (10AM DAY 10)

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24/02/2017 - DAY 11 (10AM DAY 11)

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25/02/2017 - DAY 12 (10AM DAY 12)

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26/02/2017 - DAY 13 (10AM DAY 13)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

27/02/2017 - DAY 14 (10AM DAY 14)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.

28/02/2017 - DAY 15 (10AM DAY 15)

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29/02/2017 - DAY 16 (10AM DAY 16)

6:55AM LURED ALL DAY. LURED FROM WINGSPAN. LURED FROM BANY-BELL. LURED FROM STREAM. NO SIGN. NO SOUND. 2:30PM SHE FLEW OVER THE FLYING DISPLAY WHILE HISAN WAS OUT. TRIED TO CALL HER BACK. NO SIGN AFTER THAT. STAYED UNTIL DARK. LURD MY HEART OUT. BROKEN HEATED.



BACK @ HOME SAFE



GIANT HOOD



NO STRINGS

by Heidi Stook

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What's in a name

Falcons

Aroha ♀

Following a severe magpie attack, Aroha was given veterinary attention, and cared for by Russell and May Evans (Bush Haven Sanctuary) in Invercargill. She arrived at Wingspan in October 2016, and housed with Wink as a potential breeding pair. It was the beginning of a blossoming relationship, and even though she was a young falcon in her first year, their initial pairing was successful and they raised two chicks.
Sponsors - Genevieve Foreman (Gold), David and Sara Rogers (Bronze)

Auyola ♀

Found on a farm in Maungatua, Otago, Auyola was found with injuries of unknown cause, unable to stand upright or fly. Permanent disability has prevented her rehabilitation and release back into the wild, so she has been paired with Hamdam, another Eastern Falcon from Otago.
Sponsors - Charles Feast (Gold), Genevieve Foreman (Gold)

Hamdam ♂

Romeo to Auyola, Hamdam was rescued as a chick from Otago in 2013. His princely charm matches his royal namesake, named in honour of Sheikh Hamdam, the Crown prince of Dubai, where falconry has a very rich history and culture of 4,000 years.
Sponsors - I Foster (Gold), Bronze, Caroline Rogers (Bronze), Irma Swanepoel (Bronze)

Hisan ♂

An only child from the second clutch of Rita & Lee in 2015, Hisan is now one of the main flight display falcons at Wingspan, and wows the crowds with his speed, strategy

and altitude. In Arabic, 'Hisan' translates to 'horse' which matches perfectly with his sponsors at 'Bronco's'.
Absolute sponsorship - Bronco's Steakhouse Manukau, Joseph Yap Kai Yang (contributing)

Jimmy ♂

Found at Otorohanga with a dislocated beak, Jimmy was in poor condition and unable to feed properly. While his condition improved and he regained strength he is unable to be released and is now part of the breeding programme, with partner Kaha.
Absolute sponsor - Jan Wilkins

Julz ♀

In 2008, Julz was found in Kaingaroa Forest with a broken wing after striking a deer fence. Unable to make a full recovery to regain her flight, she has been part of the breeding programme where she has raised many falcon chicks.
Sponsors - Chris and Enkhjargal Morgan (Gold), Kim Murdie (Bronze), Craig Irving (Bronze)

Kaha ♀

Found injured in Wellington, Kaha was cared for by vets at Wellington Zoo where they inserted a metal pin to repair her broken wing. Kaha reportedly was very 'feisty' to zoo staff so was given the nickname 'kia kaha' due to her strong nature. She has since been paired with Jimmy, and early indications of courtship suggest they may be successful in the 2017-2018 breeding season.
Absolute sponsors - Wayne and Lorna Butler

Ka kite ♂

Found as an adult with a broken wing in Hawkes Bay, Ka kite was taken to Wildbase, Massey Vets in Palmerston North. Ka kite was transferred to Wingspan where he was provided with training for fitness to prepare him for



hisan



ka kite



Jimmy & Kaha



shaheena

release. He became a true ambassador at Wingspan for the flying displays. In July, Ka Kite returned to the wild, the call of nature bigger than his need for Wingspan, and last seen in pursuit of a wild female falcon in Paradise Valley.
Sponsors - Archaeology Resources (Gold), Te Unanga Bz Inc (Gold), Gillian Abbott (Bronze), Preeti Kundalin (contributing)

Koa ♂

Rescued from Whakarewarewa Forest last year as an egg and artificially incubated and hatched at Wingspan. A complicated hatch that required assistance, Koa started life as a special falcon. After winter, Koa will be trained to develop hunting skills, with fitness and muscle conditioning.
Absolute sponsors - Paul and Maryanne Richardson

Lee ♂

Lee was one of three falcons rescued from Kaingaroa Forest during the 2014 breeding season; brother Quentin and sister Binky were released into the wild, however at only eight months of age, Lee became a father to three chicks, and set the record as Wingspan's youngest ever breeding falcon. Lee continues as part of the falcon breeding programme and is currently paired with Julz.
Absolute sponsor - Beverley Cuy

Millennium (aka "Millie") ♀

Regarded as our resident drama queen, Millie was originally bred at Wingspan and hand reared. Millie has been one of the star performers at Wingspan, delighting visitors in the daily flying displays; however due to her age and now failing eyesight she has since been retired.
Sponsors - Millennium Hotel Rotorua (Gold), Mark and Patricia McKenna (Silver), Brian Homes (contributing)

Mojo ♂

Captive bred at Wingspan but abandoned by his parents at one day of age, Mojo was hand reared by Wingspan staff and is now part of our education programme and often taken offsite to schools or special presentations. Charismatic and full of personality, Mojo never fails to enthrall and delight, possibly one of our fastest falcons on the wing, he is a spitfire!
Sponsors - Charlie Foster and Tracey Wheeler (Silver), Graham and Blanche Lubbock (Silver), Mark and Fiona Darin (Bronze)

Shaheena Tetsuko ♀

Shaheena is an Arabic name for falcon, and Tetsuko a Japanese word meaning 'Lady of Steel'. Shaheena remains an advocacy bird, and is marked by fame. She is one of the falcons pictured on the new NZ50 banknotes, and even made an appearance by special invitation to Government House Wellington for the Reserve Bank of New Zealand.
Sponsors - Carry and Erin Burt (Gold), James McCarthy (Gold), Carolina Rogers (contributing) Hayden and Hamish Chapman (contributing)

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Siren ♀
Rescued as a chick at just a few days old from Kaingaroa in 2016, Siren is currently being trained as an ambassador and advocate for her kind. Learning the skills and techniques of flight. Siren will soon be a part of the daily displays, where she will captivate and educate the public on the threats and vulnerability of these spectacular and dynamic endangered birds.

Absolute Sponsor - Kath McIndoe

Stella ♀
Captive bred at Wingspan by Ali and Wink, Stella was released in Wanaka in the South Island. But after three days in the wild, she was found with a beak injury and needed longer captive care. She is currently being cared for and flown by Noel Hyde.

Absolute Sponsor - Noel & All Lambertson

Wink ♂
Wink was found in a wild falcon nest in 2008. In Waihopai (South Island) with a stick protruding from his eye! He has since recovered from his injury and has retained most of his vision, but still not enough to release him back into the wild. However, Wink has a very nurturing and protective spirit that has helped him to become a very successful father to a number of amazing captive bred chicks here at Wingspan.

Sponsors - Brian & Les Turner (Gold), Lindsay & Alison Moore (Silver), Stephen & Sandra King (Bronze) and Kes Baker (Contributing)

Barn Owls

Bubo ♂
Bubo is one of only three captive barn owls in New Zealand. He was rescued from Kaitiata where he was discovered on the roadside with a dislocated wing. He received some much-needed care and rehabilitation at Wingspan. Unable to fly very well, Bubo has been paired up with Tahiti, for our captive breeding programme. This will help ensure the future success of a self-sustaining captive population of barn owls in New Zealand.

Absolute Sponsors - Dan Jones and Kate Alliston

Marama ♀
Marama was discovered in the wild in July, 2016. Lifeless and in a torpor state after having succumbed to the cold, Marama was found by Noel who warmed her back up by cradling her under his jumper. After some intensive care, Marama slowly but surely crept back from the brink, and is now fully recovered. We are hoping that Marama will soon be a part of the captive breeding programme.

Absolute Sponsor - Debbie Harwood

Tahi ♀
Found in 2008 on farmland in Kaitiata with a severely broken left wing, Tahi had to undergo several attempts to repair the wing, unfortunately all were unsuccessful. The

word Tahi is Maori for 'one' which is very fitting for this very special and unique bird.

Sponsors - Gary & Annette Hall (Gold), Nadine Bisse (Silver) and Michel Michiels (Silver)

Morepork

Nestor ♂
Amazingly, Nestor was found by a kayaker as a young bird, floating in the Tongairiro River in 2004! After recovering in Wainuiomata 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 Crete, quite fitting for a wise old owl!

Sponsors - Mary Staal (Gold), Adams Family (Contributing)

Wairuru ♀
In 2005, Wairuru was found with a broken wing in Taupo. Unable to be released due to permanent damage, Wairuru was brought into Wingspan where she was paired with Nestor in our breeding programme.

Sponsors - Maxine Powick (Silver), Heather Boaler (Bronze), Archaeology Resources (Bronze)

Whetu - Kura Aldeberan
Brought in from Tauranga at just a few weeks old in December 2016, Whetu is the rising new star here at Wingspan. With a charming and charismatic personality, Whetu is one of our newest morepork ambassadors and advocates on-site. While captivating audiences of both young and old, Whetu is sure to inspire, educate and raise awareness of the difficulty facing our New Zealand raptors today.

Absolute Sponsor - Pam Oliver

Whisper ♀
Whisper was found in 2007 in an abandoned nest as an egg by forestry contractors in Kaingaroa Forest. She was artificially incubated then hand raised. Whisper remains the friendliest morepork here at Wingspan and has proved countless times that she is an excellent foster mother for other ruru chicks.

Absolute Sponsor - Edward & Wendy Goodwin

Harriers

Amber ♀
Amber arrived at Wingspan as a young bird in early 2015. After a bit of training with staff, Amber is now both a flying and hunting bird, enjoying the thrill of getting out on the wing and tackling prey.

Sponsor - Virginia Bourne (Gold), Paula Howe (Gold)

Boomer ♂
Was found injured and brought into Wingspan for some TLC. After a full recovery and getting a little weight on, Boomer was soon released. Unfortunately, two days later he was back at Wingspan after being hit by a motorbike. He

now resides at Wingspan where he is an advocate and ambassador for his kind. His name Boomer, being short for Boomerang, simply because he keeps coming back!

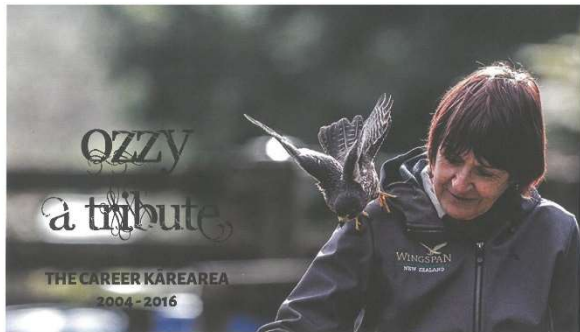
Absolute Sponsor - Gael Black

Fran ♀
Found in March 2010, in Morrinsville, Fran 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 Hamenström, a famous falconer and biologist who spent 25 years studying harriers in Northern Wisconsin, USA.

Sponsor - Mark Hoyle (Silver), Hawky Haulage (Silver)



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Called 'Ozzy' by his first sponsor because he was shaky on his feet with an attitude problem.

12 years as an ambassador for his species, he marked the flying displays at Wingspan centre since it opened in 2004.



By calculation, 150,000 visitors had seen him, 4,000 flying displays under his wings, around 20,000 visitors held him on the gauntlet (and sometimes their heads). Held by the famous and infamous (a Lord, some moguls, movie stars, Wingspan's peers and mentors), the big kids, and the little kids.

In the movies (with Weta Workshop on the Adventures of Tintin) on the TV, videos and YouTube. 11 times intermarried, 3 complete tail replacements, and a New Zealand falcon with a sense of humour.

Through the months of October and November during his flying displays, Ozzy had been showing a lot of territorial behaviour, more than usual, or ever before. It was 'controlled air space chasing any larger birds away'.

In spring time vigour, he would attempt to make a scrape (nest) in a half-turned wine barrel, or a convenient patch of long grass in the display area.

But, on the 24th of November 2016, on a hot day, he flew off on 'patrol', he carved the blue sky. Impressive flights and stoops by distance and height, and impress. But then flew from sight, and missing in action ever since.

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Despite, looking out for him and waiting for his return, our hopes faded.

We can take to heart that at 12 years old he outlived any other male falcon in the wild, and that his final resting place, was in the wild.

Without question, he has been such an advocate for his species.

Within New Zealand there have been many stories of named wildlife that have captured our imaginations. We know them by personal encounters, or by their stories. We have all warmed to the celebrated examples, the likes of 'Old Blue' for Chatham Island Robin, or 'Richard Henry', or 'Sirrocco' Kakapo as advocates for their species.

For karearea NZ falcon, we nominate Ozzy Oswald. Advocate. Ambassador.

Ozzy, 242 grams of connections, 12 years' worth that has marked his time, marked the Wingspan journey, but also, personally marked my life.

I am honoured and humbled by the journey with Ozzy, he has been an ambassador for his species - a career karearea for Wingspan. But on a personal level - as his handler, his trainer - our partnership was so much more.

His life has marked more than 12 years. Ozzy has marked my life, and our Wingspan lives.

Bred by Steve and Yvette Lawrence in Upper Hutt. Son of father 'Ford', and mother 'Jess'. The irony, Ford was a male falcon I rehabilitated in the early years of Wingspan establishment, and Jess was a bird Noel had reared and trained in Wellington. But Ozzy was a chick not faring well. Two siblings had died and Jess had difficulty feeding him.

Noel made a mercy dash from Rotorua to Wellington to bring him to the centre. A little to day old chick, checking temperatures and comfortability every ten minutes for the drive home.

We reared him, sunned him, interacted as his 'parents'. He ruled the internal atrium of the brand-new aviary, we taught him to fly, we taught him to hunt.

Visitors were delighted. He was sponsored by rock musicians, jewellers, comedians and toy folk, embraced by thousands of kids and smirks from thousands of their parents.

His first flights were dubious. But poor Ozzy was traumatised, almost killed by 'Red' (an adult male falcon we had released three years before). The first time Ozzy had ever been awol. ... Flew into the aviary. ... It took four years before Ozzy would fly or land in the bordering gum trees.

Ozzy trained us with chicken leg jump - extended it further as a reverse inside cut back!, the double loop!, and amazingly flying back into his aviary (when it was raining or when the audience clapped).

But on a personal level, 'We flew together - Ozzy and me - when I was thrilled, or celebrating events, self-like was my distraction, my disengagement, when I was saddened by the losses of family or friends, hurting or not feeling well. Over time, his life marked my daughter through high school, university and independence. We shared so many thousands of days together when the show must go on! Ozzy has marked my hairstyles, and he never let me wear a hat!

Debbie Stewart



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Where's Koha?

Koha is a New Zealand falcon that even sounds like a real falcon! A lot like our very own Mānū in fact. The kee-ke-ke-ke-ke of Koha is an actual recording of Wingspan's very own falcon, Millennium's 2nd Millie.

Koha is an initiative from Wingspan, to be a travelling ambassador for his species, helping raise awareness of karearea. He is a fun educational tool to spread Wingspan's conservation messages and help promote birds of prey in New Zealand.

Where will Koha go next? Well, that's really up to you!

Wingspan is encouraging kiwis to get amongst it in their own back yard - explore those beautiful locations our stunning country has to offer, take your very own Koha travelling companion and upload your vacation snap-shots to the 'Where's Koha' Facebook page.

But don't stop there! Let's head across the globe as well!

Kleenex sponsors & associates

Helping Wingspan's conservation programme are a number of associates, academic and promotional partners. Each provides a way to put our conservation, research and key messages in front of new audiences, and who contribute time or money (often both) for the cause.

Being a registered charitable trust, Wingspan does not receive Government or local body funding in support of the raptor conservation programme. Essentially, Wingspan is a project about birds of prey and people - it's a conservation buy-in for us all, and collectively we all make a difference for the raptors of New Zealand.

Donations to the programme are always welcomed and it's easier than ever before! You can write or email directly, or simply give us a call. Some members have organised regular donations, bequests and memorial or direct credits - even small regular payments too (save reminders for renewals)

Contact Wingspan directly - we'll be thrilled to hear from you!

tumbleweed
T-SHIRTS FUNDING CONSERVATION

We are constantly humbled by the support we receive from sponsors and associates. TUMBLEWEED is no exception, donating \$5 to Wingspan from every falcon and moreork Tumbleweed t-shirt sold! In recognition of their contributions TUMBLEWEED are now life members. Thank you team!! Check out their fantastic products here: www.tumbleweedtees.com

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Wingspan would like to make a special mention of thanks to KAINGAROA TIMBERLANDS LTD for their continued support of falcon research within Kaingaroa Forest and towards the Wingspan new centre.

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- Justin Murray 2015
- Helen Wilmore 2016
- WAIKUPUKU**
- Lee Lambert 2011
- WAIMATA**
- Neil & Josie Whitehead 2011
- WAIKATO**
- Priscilla & Libby Chandler 2016
- WAIKAREMOA**
- Ron Thompson 2017
- WAIKANGAI**
- Paul & Jane Gibson 2007
- Lynne Gray 2011
- Trevor Hawkins 2014
- Julie Lovelidge 2016
- Jenni & Family 2012
- Peter & Cali Werrin 2008
- WAIKAWAITI**
- Brian Gifford 2017
- WELLINGTON**
- Helen & Family 2016
- John Maber & Alison Craig 2008
- Brian & Rosalyn & Alison Wain 2015
- Kelly Burgin 2016
- Tiana Rowenbeck 2017
- Tom & Ailsa Bollinger 2016
- Richard Brown 2015
- Johanna Christensen 2017
- Richard & Jane Craigie 2007
- Vicky Hill 2017
- Mark Fisher 2013
- Riki Galloway 2017
- Imogene Salasala 2017
- Richard Gilbert 2015
- Ron & Carolyn Gaudesman 2007
- Jaco Grundling 2015
- Matthew Hollaway 2015
- Innie Family 2007
- Malcolm Maclean & Janet Green 2008
- Josie Family 2016
- Kareed Group Limited 2016
- Patricia Lewis 2017
- Clare MacDonald 2015
- Iain MacLellan 2015
- Melie Mahachuk 2005
- Susan Martell 2015
- Chris & Gillian Milligan 2011
- Josette McLaughlin 2015
- Jessie & Sara Miller 2015
- Holly Molloy 2017
- Jana Morgan 2017
- Mark Campbell & Nancy De Burger 2015
- National Library of New Zealand
- Sirial 'Nicky' 2014
- James O'Leary 2007
- P Kewer 2017
- Jake Proton 2016
- Andrew Rodger 2015
- Charlotte Thompson 2017
- Clare Wintwerp 2015
- Andra Winchem 2013
- Dan Young 2015
- WAIKAREMOA
- Wai & Simon 2014
- Blake Fortune 2016
- Derek & Kerry Gilling 2002
- Nicole Halford 2014
- Malcolm & Sally Hyler 2016
- Kyrelli Isaac Ireland 2015
- Alan Jones 2010
- Bonny Sampson 2009
- Anita Kjeldsen 2017
- Jeff Laflamme 2015
- James McCreary 2011
- Lesley Price 2006
- Jan West 2012
- Chris van Beek 2016
- Jan West 2012
- Lindsay & Saem Weavers 2005
- Jamie Wood 2015
- Nathan & Brisco Young 2017
- WAIKANGAMA**
- Jan Feltus 2015
- WAIKANGAI**
- Paul & Stewart 2012
- WAIKANGAI**
- Paul & Stewart 2012
- Linda Bartley 2014
- Michael Couratze 2004
- Jana & Francis Freeman 2016
- John Hemion 2015
- Robin & Libby Long 2006
- Paul Shaw 2016
- WHIRI**
- Geoff & Jane Wells 2015
- WHITINGA**
- Paul & Family 2001
- Gary Hens 2014
- Sharon Hens 2016
- WOODVILLE**
- Dei & Val Dighorn 2007

thank you!

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

These international members provide continued support to Wingspan through donations/sponsorship.

- AUSTRALIA**
- Jane Buckland 2016
- Gillian Coundwell & Ross Tinker 2010
- Angi Doolan 2017
- Geoff De Manton 2009
- Josh & Heidi Morrison 2016
- Shaun & Louise Pyatt 2016
- Jim Skoppor 2008
- Paul & Jacqui Reid 2016
- BEIJING**
- Michel Michels 2016
- CANADA**
- Mark Scherer 2016
- FRANCE**
- Ian & Rose Nevejan 2009
- INDIA**
- Praveer Kumbhali 2017
- NETHERLANDS**
- Sonjessusant 2016
- SINGAPORE**
- Henry Brisco 2016
- Joseph Yee Kai Yang 2016
- TAIWAN**
- M Suresaratna 2016
- UK**
- Ann Baker 2015
- Robin & Doreen Curtis 2007
- USA**
- James Ryan Davis 2016
- Charles & Karen Goetz 2004
- Michelle Conroy Harada 2015
- Paul Timothy Johnson 2004
- Amy Lewandowski 2015



STOP PRESS

As this journal goes to press, there have been new members signing up supporting the conservation programme, that's a big 'high four', and a big welcome from Wingspan for 2017!

- AUCKLAND**
- Barnes Family
- Alex Chu
- Hugh Markham
- DEBURY
- Lee Young
- INVERCARGILL**
- Stephan and Sandra
- KAMO**
- Brook Hartman
- LEVIN**
- Kevin Holmes
- NAPIER**
- Russell Milner
- OTIHOI/RANGIA**
- Michael and Melissa Lincoln
- PALMERSTON NORTH**
- Tony Ross
- PURITAKAU**
- Angela Duncan
- ROTORUA**
- Nick and Sharyn Hartman
- Bryce McCulligan and Angie Simpson
- Nicky and Phil O'Shea
- TAIPO**
- Libby Faith
- Rebecca Fox
- TAURANGA**
- Levi Berry
- TE KAIKE**
- Kerina MacIntyre
- TURANGI**
- Anthony and Karen McManus
- UPPER HUTT**
- Andra Winchem
- WAIKAREMOA ISLAND**
- David Markinson

thank you!

QUICK FACTS

WINGSPAN BIRDS OF PREY TRUST SINCE 1992!

25 YEARS OF RAPTOR JOURNEY

RESEARCH WINGSPAN HOLDS THE ONLY RESEARCH DEPOSITORY OUTSIDE OF A MUSEUM OR UNIVERSITY IN NEW ZEALAND

96 TOTAL NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS PUBLISHED

8,039 OUR FACEBOOK LIKES

6,687 FLIGHT DISPLAYS OF FALCONS AND HAWKS

236 Total number of birds of prey released

171,017 How many visitors through Wingspan?

2,760 TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE

67,628 NUMBER OF KIDS WHO HAVE HELD A KAREAREA FALCON ON THE GAUNTLET

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Photo: AMC DESIGN

retail exclusive

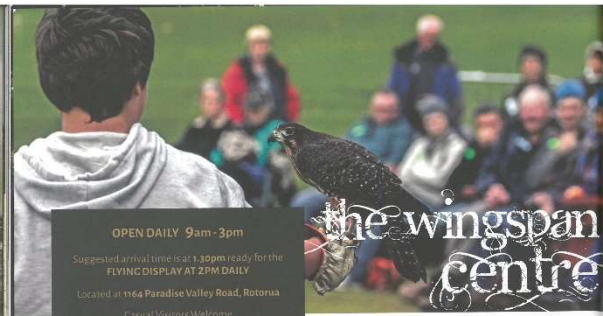
- Az Laminated Falcon & Morepork Growth Chart Posters \$25
- Wingspan Magnets NEW 2017 Range - 16 to collect \$3
- Leather Keyring Falconry Gloves and Hoods \$20
- Soft Toy Falcon & Ruru with sound from \$20

- Lined Notebooks & Bookmarks from \$6
- Gift Cards Assorted Designs by Wendy Goodwin \$5
- Range of Hand Made Falconry Bells \$16.80 pair
- HAAST EAGLE Replica Talon Fossil lightweight composite material \$35
- Tumbleweed Tees Falcon & Morepork design from \$34
- Visit in store or online for a wide range of canvas prints by BLACK STALLION PHOTOGRAPHY *Whakahaupo e te taiao*

hot off the press

A brand new range of hoodies and tees featuring our Steampunk falcon design. Head online to wingspan.co.nz or pop into Wingspan to check out this new range of Wingspan apparel. Available in various sizes.

Tees \$60 Hoodies \$90



OPEN DAILY 9am-3pm
 Suggested arrival time is at 1:30pm ready for the
FLYING DISPLAY AT 2PM DAILY
 Located at 1164 Paradise Valley Road, Rotorua
 Casual Visitors Welcome
 Group (10+) bookings essential
 to avoid disappointment
Adults \$25 Seniors \$20 Children \$10

the wingspan centre

RAPTOR EXPERIENCE
 An extra "behind the scenes" hosted tour of our breeding, research and display facility with a Wingspan falconer. Perfect for those interested as an addition to the daily flying display. Bookings in advance are essential, as the tour is limited to only 6 people daily. **\$100 per group (on top of general Wingspan admission).**

SCHOOL VISITS
 Wingspan offers a unique educational experience for students. **Discounted rate of just \$8.00 per person + \$80 Group Booking Fee.**

DONATIONS
 If you wish to contribute towards the Wingspan programme donations are warmly welcomed. **Donations of \$5.00 or more are tax deductible within New Zealand.**

WINGSPAN MEMBERSHIP
 Wingspan membership includes the annual journal, a special Wingspan members badge upon joining, plus year round complimentary admission to the Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre. **Individual membership \$65.00 per annum. Family membership \$100 per annum (for couples and families residing at the same address).**

SPONSOR A NEW ZEALAND RAPTOR AT WINGSPAN
 Name the bird (absolute sponsorship only), receive a sponsorship photograph, free admission to the Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre for the year and special acknowledgment in our annual journal. Subject to availability - call or visit Wingspan for more information. **Absolute Sponsor \$1,000. Gold Sponsor \$500. Silver Sponsor \$200. Bronze Sponsor \$100.**

HOW YOU CAN HELP..

It's your chance to help fund our irreplaceable trust, donations to the programme will help us provide the resources to care for and protect New Zealand's birds of prey, and research and educate the public on their incredible lives.

Member New Gift

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Postcode: _____

Email: _____
Or leave a donation to the trust

Become a member and share the future
 Family/1yr Individual/5yr Lifetime/1,000

Sponsor a wild or captive bird
 Wild bird \$300
 Captive bird (1st yr) \$1,000

Make a donation
 1000 500 250 Other

Bequests: Please contact Wingspan for more information

EASY PAYMENT OPTIONS
 Online payment: www.wingspan.co.nz
 Direct Credit/Westpac: Account 03 345 000730 00
 Please add Wingspan to your bank's list of payees
 Send cheque to: Wingspan, PO Box 993, Rotorua 3040

PLEASE FOLD LEAFLETS WITH YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS ON THE INSIDE AND TAPE ALONG THE EDGE BEFORE POSTING

WINGSPAN
 BIRD OF PREY FOR OUR FUTURE

WINGSPAN BIRD OF PREY TRUST
 PO BOX 993
 ROTORUA 3040

PLACE STAMP HERE

SPONSOR A WILD NEW ZEALAND FALCON
 Name the bird, receive a photo, information on banding plus free admission to Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre for the year. **\$200. Subject to availability - call or visit Wingspan for more information.**

LIFETIME SUPPORTER
 Includes the benefits of a Wingspan member and supporter, including a lifetime subscription to the annual journal, a very special Wingspan pin and complimentary lifetime admission. **\$1,000.**

SPONSOR AN AVIARY/CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP
 Sponsorship is welcomed for specific raptor research projects, rescued birds or breeding pairs. This includes naming rights. Formal registration and signage within the aviary facilities with logo branding. Specific project costs on application. Limited availability. **From \$5,000 per annum.**

Bequests and special memorials by arrangement. Please visit or call into Wingspan for more information.

