



**No. 5: 2018**  
**19th. December, 2018**

P.O. Box 401072  
Mangawhai Heads 0541

Our website: [www.fairytern.org.nz](http://www.fairytern.org.nz)  
Email: [info@fairytern.org.nz](mailto:info@fairytern.org.nz)

Dear Members,

**In this issue: Fairy tern news; Calendars; Museum display; Fishing Study; Coming events.**

**First welcome to new members: Lyall Piesse of Mangawhai and Melanie Scott of Mangawhai, Paul Stuart and family of Auckland, Robyn and Roger Dunn of Warkworth.**

*Note from Membership Secretary, Sioux Plowman:*

*If you've paid your sub but haven't received a receipt, please let her know: [siouxp@gmail.com](mailto:siouxp@gmail.com)*

## **Fairy Tern News**

Despite its early promise, this breeding season is not looking good for New Zealand fairy terns.

**Waipu:** The nest found there on 2 November has been abandoned; the eggs were cracked and rejected by the birds who carried them away to the estuary margin. This pair have laid again, but their eggs are usually infertile.

**Mangawhai:** One of the eggs from the first nest of the season hatched on 7 November, but the chick was lost at two days old. The other three early nests all failed. Subsequently, two pairs have re-nested. One nest was found on 16 November, but the eggs have failed to hatch. On 10 December, the pair who laid the first nest of the season laid another two egg nest. These eggs are due to hatch around New Year's Day.

**Pakiri:** A one egg nest was found on 21 November and the chick hatched on 15 December.

**Papakanui:** On 9 November we heard the very sad news that the Waller Island female (RM-KR) had died, in spite of initially responding to treatment at Auckland Zoo. A post-mortem is being conducted. This female hatched at Mangawhai but has been at Papakanui ever since, even being fed by Bertrum (B-RM) in her first year. Whilst she was paired with an infertile male (B-pGM), she was a great foster mum, incubating fertile eggs from other pairs. Losing this female is a huge blow.

The other Papakanui pair laid two eggs on 15 November, which were moved to the Zoo as the site was not safe from incoming high tides. One egg died, one egg was transferred to Mangawhai, but it failed to hatch.

So, to sum up, we have one live chick at Pakiri, two eggs which should hatch around New Year's Day at Mangawhai, and a nest of probably infertile eggs at Waipu..

There are seven breeding pairs left – one each at Waipu, Pakiri and Papakanui and four at Mangawhai.

## Calendars

Our first print run of calendars has sold out and we have had more printed, so it's not too late to order. See below for details on how to order. The special postage free deal for paid up members still applies. They are \$20 each and as a special offer to paid-up Trust members we will send them to you **postage free**. The calendars are A4 size, that is each picture and each calendar page is A4 size with plenty of room to write in appointments by each date. As a special bonus, January 2020 is included.



Celebrating 10 years of Advocacy, Education and Conservation

### TO ORDER:

Email your order to; [heatherrogan2017@gmail.com](mailto:heatherrogan2017@gmail.com)

Pay by:

**Direct credit:** ASB Wellsford A/c No: 12-3094-0197257-00  
A/c Name: New Zealand Fairy Tern Charitable Trust  
Please include your name and what the payment is for.

**Credit card:** Please go to our website: [www.fairytern.org.nz](http://www.fairytern.org.nz)  
On the HOW TO HELP page click on the **Donate** button  
Follow the instructions for a secure payment by credit card.

**Post your order and cheque** made out to: New Zealand Fairy Tern Charitable Trust  
Post to; P.O. Box 401 072  
Mangawhai Heads 0541

## Museum Exhibition

The fairy tern exhibition at the Mangawhai museum opened on 1 December and will be in place for the next six months.

Guests at the opening heard tributes to the organisers of the display and those who had contributed in all sorts of ways. Trustee, Bryan Clark worked with Trust members and designer, Daniel Twinn, preparing the display, while an army of Museum volunteers put it all together.

Special mention was made of Shaun Lee's amazing 3D models and Susan Steedman's video of a fairy tern chick's development, while sponsors, Forest and Bird and Bennetts of Mangawhai made it all possible.

# Survival of the New Zealand Fairy Tern

Come and learn about NZ's  
most critically endangered bird species



The Fairy Tern Exhibition  
Dec 2018 - July 2019

Entrance fee included in general admission at the Mangawhai Museum  
*sponsored by Forest and Bird and Bennetts of Mangawhai*



Mangawhai Museum 09 4314645  
<https://www.mangawhai-museum.org.nz/whats-on>



## Pictures from the Exhibition Opening

*Photos by Joy Wilson*

**Guests of honour, Trapper Reg and  
Kenny the dog with Sandra Clark**



**Guests at the opening**

**A tableau showing Shaun Lee's amazing  
models**



## Fishing Study

Ian Southey's fishing study in the Mangawhai Harbour had its most recent session on 9 December.

### Results with last year's for comparison:

	9/12/18	17/12/17
Gobies	1334	897
Flounder	9	116
Sole	5	36
Triplefin	2	5
Snapper	3	1
Banded Kokopu whitebait	6	
Unidentified	1	
Estuarine Stargazer		7
Parore		5
Smelt		22
Yellow-eyed Mullet		52



An estuarine goby

*Photo: Ian Southey*

The next fishing session is January 14<sup>th</sup>.at 10.30 a.m. Meet at the bottom of North Avenue, Mangawhai Heads.

Enquiries to [iansouthey@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:iansouthey@yahoo.co.nz)

## Coming Events

We will have display stalls at the **Highland Games in Waipu on 1 January, 2019**

and at the **Mangawhai Gala, Mangawhai Domain on 2 January, 2019.**

*With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from your Trust Committee*