



THE Hutton's Shearwater

CHARITABLE TRUST

NEWSLETTER

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Kia Ora,

Firstly, on behalf of the Trust, I would like to mention the passing of renowned Canterbury artist Austen Deans on the 19th of October. Austen was a remarkable man who aside from his many exploits greatly assisted the Trust. His painting of Hutton's shearwater and the Kaikoura Ranges turned into a major fundraiser when he agreed that the Trust could produce prints for sale. He personally signed 50 of them making them very collectable and highly sought after.

You will also find a review on the recent biography of Austen entitled "Capturing Mountains – the life and art of Austen Deans" which you can read on page 4 of this newsletter. The Trust's sympathy and kind wishes go out to his wife Margaret, his seven sons and the wider Deans family.

As summer approaches the shearwaters have re-established their nests in the colonies in readiness for this season's breeding. The Trust has been busy over the last few months, involved with the following:

Filming the very first Hutton's Shearwater documentary – this has been an exciting project for the Trust to be associated with and we look forward to seeing the final product. The film will premiere in Dunedin in November (see details on page 2) however the Trust is planning its own launch in Kaikoura to coincide with our 'Farewell Hutton's' event planned for April 2012. Watch this space for more details closer to the time.

Organising the first 'Welcome Home Hutton's event – by the time you receive this newsletter the very first 'welcome home' event will have been completed. The Trust is working at having a 'Welcome Home' and 'Farewell' event annually for the Kaikoura community and Hutton's supporters. These will be held in September and April every year with the dates being advised well in advance, so add them to your 'must attends'.

Preparing a management plan for peninsula colony—this will enable the Trust to manage the site more efficiently and proactively. A management plan is a key tool to the success of a project like this.

Discussions a further translocation – the Trust are considering a further translocation of chicks from the Kowhai Colony to the Peninsula, to further boost the numbers and the survival of the peninsula colony. Discussions are happening with the appropriate authorities and we hope to be successful sourcing funds. A project like this will require 'many hands on deck' so we hope to be able to encourage our 'Friends group' and other interested volunteers to help us out.

Developing new interpretation panels for the Peninsula colony and the I-Site – the Trust is working with the Department of Conservation to develop interpretation panels for the Peninsula colony site and for the Kaikoura Information Centre. Once installed, the panels will inform visitors and help spread the Hutton's story at two of the most visited sites in Kaikoura. We thank the Department of Conservation for their input and contribution to the project.

Continued on next page.....

The Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust is a Charities Commission registered entity CC37979.

Donations to the Trust attract tax credits.

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Education pack in conjunction with DOC—the Department of Conservation is kindly creating a Hutton's Education Pack for our local schools. It is a replica of their very successful 'Falcon Education Pack' used in Marlborough. It will be a great learning tool for our schools curriculum and will give the children a greater understanding of our very

special local bird. A big thank you to DOC.

Bilingual education unit in conjunction with Te Runanga o Kaikoura and Canterbury University Maori, Social and Cultural Studies in education unit each year the unit takes its bilingual group. This involves the iwi kainga choosing 3 topics for the teachers to research, gather data, interview relevant people

and collect information.

We are lucky enough that the marae selected was Kaikoura and that one of the topics chosen was Hutton's Shearwater (titi). Consequently another wonderful learning resource is being produced.

The Trust welcomes Andrew Spencer (Kaikoura) and Elspeth Wingham (Conway/Cheviot) as new

Trustees. Sadly, a founding trustee, Dennis Burrman has resigned. Dennis has made a significant contribution to the work of the Trust and the company he co-owns has been very generous supporting us in a variety of different ways. We would like to thank Dennis for his wonderful input to the Trust and wish him well in the future.

Paul McGahan
Chairman

Documentary filming finished



Above— Sean Griffin and Claire Clements up the mountain

Right— Sean Griffin filming

The filming for the Hutton's Shearwater film is now finished!

Sean Griffin and I headed up to Kaikoura in early September with an aim to film the birds on snow in the Kowhai colony, film them on the ocean in big rafts, and to capture the magic of the snow covered mountains.

We had just over a week to do this and we managed to get all the footage we needed after a 2 night stay in the Kowhai Valley and 2 days out on the DOC boat filming at sea.

We also got some amazing aerial shots of the Shearwater Stream colony on Trustee Nicky McArthur's property and the third colony on the peninsula.

This trip was a real culmination of everyone's efforts to bring this film together, and we would like to thank everyone who helped us. In particular the Hutton's Shear-

water Charitable Trust, Trustee Phil Bradfield, the local Department of Conservation team, and 'The Fairways' (with their kind offer of accommodation for us including Sean Griffin's wife with their new born baby!).

We dropped in on Geoff & Lindsay Harrow on our way back to Dunedin and had a lovely lunch and afternoon chatting about the birds, the mountains and some of Geoff's stories from the past.

So now we are in edit stage for the next month, while we get the film together for the premiere on November 16th in Dunedin. Hope to see you all there!

Filmed over one year and capturing never before seen footage, the Hutton's Shearwater film will premiere in Dunedin on the 16th November 2011, in the Regent Theatre. Tickets can be sourced via Claire on the following email address – huttonsfilm@gmail.com

It would be a good idea to pre-arrange your ticket.

See www.huttonsfilm.com for some great photos and more information.

Claire Clements—Documentary maker



Hutton's History

Paua, Hutton's harvesting and ravenous rabbits

I met Herbie Melville when he was well into his eighties. He was still employed at Middlehurst Station in the Awatere Valley in 1969, engaged in fencing repairs. He told me that when he was a young man in his twenties he recalled an aged Maori chap describing annual mutton birding expeditions that the Waipapa hapu made up the Clarence River, into the head of the Dee Stream, under Mount Tapuaenuku.

These parties took a supply of paua to keep them in food at first. Paua middens have been found at the bush line on the southern flank of Mt

Tapuaenuku. The Mutton birds (titi) the tribe harvested would have been Hutton's Shearwaters.

Geoff adds a historical note to his story:

The vessel 'Acheron' under the command of Captain J.L. Stokes, with Mr J.W. Hamilton as surveyor, in 1849 did survey work on the east coast of the South Island between Wellington and Lyttelton. In Hamilton's diary on Tuesday, 31 November 1849, he gave an account of the first ascent of Mount Tapuaenuku by his party, and also refers to Maoris' taking mutton birds in the following quotation – "I was afterwards informed at Kaikoura Peninsula by the natives that the

Titi (mutton bird) breeds in large numbers on the mountain (Tapuaenuku), and that many persons have been killed hunting for them" (Hamilton 1849). These mutton birds could have been Pterodroma inexpectata, but are more likely to have been puffinus buttoni.

Herby Melville recounted the disastrous invasion of the Awatere Valley by rabbits during the 1920's devouring all herbaceous vegetation, then gnawing their way through the rough bark on the cabbage trees. When the trees eventually fell, hundreds of rabbits would be smothered as the hungry horde stampeded to reach the green leaves at the top.

Hutton's History by Geoff Harrow.

Stay tuned for Geoff's often amusing recollections of 'earlier days' in the world of the Hutton's.

Below: Mt Tapuaenuku photographed from the Awatere valley.



Education on Hutton's Shearwater

Hutton's Shearwater Trust is delighted to have been able to introduce Hutton's Shearwater education into the Kaikoura schools in term 3. The Department of Conservation has evolved a wonderful education pack on Hutton's Shearwater and Nicky was able to present this at the rural teachers meeting last term.

This launched our education initiative and it has been inspiring to see all the schools embrace this information so willingly. It was so wonderful for many children to have made kites to fly at our inaugural "Welcome Home Hutton's" event in September.

Alongside the DOC pack, bilingual resources are being

developed through a collaboration of Te Runanga o Kaikoura and student teachers at Canterbury University. These will undoubtedly contribute hugely to the educational resources available to our community about "our bird".

Term 3 education culminated with Encounter Kaikoura providing year 6 and year 9 students a trip to sea on one of their boats to view Hutton's on the wing. A total of 65 children on 4 separate trips were able to take up this fantastic opportunity. This has been a huge success and is a fantastic chance for our young students to see these birds first hand and up close. A highlight for one group was be-

ing able to release a stranded Hutton's Shearwater back onto the ocean.

On 10th August Trustees Lindsay Rowe and Nicky McArthur took 22 Environment Canterbury (Ecan) Biodiversity staff out to the Peninsula site. They were given background information on the translocations to the peninsula colony and changes to the mountain colonies since they were rediscovered in the 1960's. We were able to make them aware of the success of the predator proof fence project (Ecan was the 2nd largest funder of the fence), described the nestbox monitoring programme and the data received from the geolocator and GPS tracking projects,

informed them of the number of birds that returned, and that two eggs had been laid but were infertile (not unusual for first time breeders).

Nicky McArthur
Trustee



Year 9 students from Kaikoura High School accompanied by Shelley Heald of the Eco Council and year 9 teacher Anastasia Hurndell

The life and art of Austen Deans

'Capturing Mountains' – The life and art of Austen Deans.

by Nathalie Brown

Seeing something in Nature that intensifies my joy in being alive, I want to try to reproduce it in such a form that when I see it again I re-live my joy at that divine moment. By so painting I hope to share my own delight with other people.
– Austen Deans, 1967

At twelve Austen Deans knew he wanted to spend his life exploring the high country and mountain ranges of Canterbury. He became an *en plein air* artist and has made his living for nearly seventy-five years capturing images of mountains and natural landscapes in water colours and oils.

Capturing Mountains is fully illustrated with examples of Austen Deans' paintings, including the wonderful scene of the Kaikoura seaward ranges and Hutton's shearwaters in the foreground, commissioned by Trust settlor, Geoff Harrow. The book describes Austen's life as a

painter and mountaineer, his place in New Zealand's history as a direct descendant of the Canterbury pioneers John and Jane Deans and his connection to the 18th century British novelist, Jane Austen. It follows his progress as an artist in a series of letters written to his family while a prisoner of war from 1941-1945.

As a P.O.W. he explored Modernist painting styles and managed to send a number of these works home. On his return to New Zealand he rejected experimental techniques and made his name in the late 1940s and 1950s as a skilled representational painter.

Throughout the 1960's his exhibitions were so popular that, at times, people queued in the street to get in. He won the Kelliher Art Prize in 1962 and 1963 and was placed second in 1969 and 1970. In 1995 he was awarded an OBE for his services to art.

While he has always been a devoted family man, mountain climbing remained a great passion. Shortly before his 80th birthday he became the oldest person to cross the 2,105-metre Ball Pass on the Mount Cook Range. He

was still making more gentle ascents at the age of 90.

It was his love of the mountains that inspired many of his greatest paintings. It was Geoff Harrow's passion for Hutton's and fine artwork that inspired him to commission Austen to paint a Kaikoura Hutton's scene that the Trust could sell as a fundraiser. That same picture has been very successful for the Trust with just two signed prints left of the original 50 signed by Austen Deans. (For \$250 you can be the lucky owner of one of the last two prints. Contact Geoff on 03 332 4534).

For more information on Austen's wonderful book and how to purchase go to www.deansart.co.nz



Kaikoura seaward ranges and Hutton's Shearwaters as painted by Austen Deans.

Be in quick to own one of the two signed copies.



Welcome home Hutton's event

The Hutton's shearwaters are back in Kaikoura waters and in plentiful numbers according to keen bird-watchers out there - and they were welcomed home officially on Saturday 24th September.

A group of about 80 people gathered on the peninsula for the welcome celebrations, with representatives from the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust, Te Runanga o Kaikoura, Department of Conservation and local schools present. Stunning weather made for a perfect outing, completed by flocks of Hutton's shearwaters below on the water.

Trust chairman Paul McGahan addressed the group, along with Geoff Harrow, who rediscovered the birds in Kaikoura in 1964.

Mr Harrow said the establishment of the third colony, on the peninsula, was thanks to the work of the "brilliant" trustees, who campaigned tirelessly to raise funds for the project.

All that was needed now was for him to see a fledgling leave from that col-

ony in his lifetime and he would die a happy man, he said.

Local singing group the Bellbirds sang a waiata which they had written specially for the event, and the ceremony finished up with kite-flying. Many of the children had even made their own kites for the celebrations.

Back in town, the street party was another excuse for further celebrations, and the Hutton's trust members and Suburban School's shearwater class ran a stall selling "Hutton" burgers and hand-made greeting cards. Trustees and Hutton's supporters were all on board to tell people all about this special bird.

Trustee Nicky McArthur said she had been delighted to see so many children getting involved in the welcome, and said the street party had been phenomenal. She hoped to be able to get involved to continue the street party as an annual event, tied in with the return of the Hutton's shearwaters. She is particularly delighted that all the local schools have embraced Hutton's Shearwater education

into the curriculum this term. Her vision is that through a strong foundation of knowledge amongst our children and students their pride in the story of the conservation of "our bird" will be spread through word of mouth far and wide.

"My vision for next year is that the street party will continue and the Huttons welcome home will be a truly community-based, collaborative event, joining the trust, the schools, the Runanga, DOC and West End businesses . . . this sort of thing is just great for town."

Nicky truly hopes that working in conjunction with the West End businesses, there is possibility for this becoming a landmark event for the town – welcoming home the Huttons each year. Perhaps next year the school children may create masks and Kaikoura can have a wonderfully colourful street parade to celebrate the return of the town's very own bird.

Nicky McArthur—Trustee

Below— photos from the event



Where do they go?

A sheer mystery...New Zealand's highest nesting seabird is faster than a cheetah, breeds in a burrow and every year leaves New Zealand and flies away for the winter. The bird is only found in New Zealand and has just two breeding colonies high in the Seaward Kaikoura Ranges.

The Hutton's shearwater is classified as endangered and the race is on to protect these last two vital breeding colonies. But to do this properly, conservation workers and the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable

Trust must find out where these birds go every year.

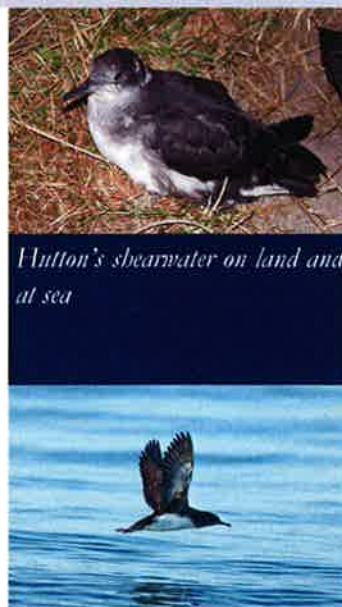
This film follows the story and uncovers one of New Zealand's greatest migration mysteries... Where do they go?

Filmed over one year and capturing never before seen footage, the Hutton's Shearwater film will premiere in Dunedin on the 16th November 2011, at the Regent Theatre. Tickets can be sourced via Claire on the following email address – huttonsfilm@gmail.com.

It would be a good idea to pre purchase your ticket.

See www.huttonsfilm.com for some great photos and more information.

The Trust aims to bring the film to you locally in April next year as part of our "Welcome Home Hutton's" Event.



Hutton's shearwater on land and at sea

Project partners and sponsors

NZ Lottery Grants Board, Pacific Development & Conservation Trust, Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund and.....

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Trust contact details

Phone: 03 319 7211 (Treasurer)
 Phone: 03 319 7344 or 0276107574 (Secretary)
 E-mail: admin@huttonsshearwater.org.nz
 PO Box 58
 Kaikoura 7300

The Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust was established in 2008 to: *Encourage and promote the preservation, conservation, research, public education, and sustainable management of the Hutton's shearwater.*

The Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust is a Charities Commission registered entity CC37979. Donations to the Trust attract tax credits.