

Out & About

What's
on near
you

March 2 -
March 8

Get
involved!

MARCH

Wednesday, March 2: DOC Summer Series - Kaikoura's Whales. 5pm, Encounter Kaikoura, gold coin donation, all welcome.

Friday, March 4: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Saturday, March 5: Pink Hike up Mt Fyffe to raise money for New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation. Register at sporttasmn.org.nz/sportrec-kaikoura.

Sunday, March 13: Kaikoura Farmers Market.

Tuesday, March 15: Kaikoura Squash Club bring a friend night, 5.30pm onwards.

Friday, March 18: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Saturday, March 19: Schoolyard Market.

Saturday, March 19: The Charwell Challenge Rogaine, fundraiser for Kaikoura Suburban School.

Tuesday, March 22: Kaikoura Garden Club, 1.30pm at Kaikoura Bowling Club, Ludstone Road. Visitors welcome.

Tuesday, March 22: Kaikoura Squash Club bring a friend night, 5.30pm onwards.

Saturday, March 26: Schoolyard Market.

Saturday, March 26 - Sunday, March 27: Sharpies Easter Golf Tournament, Kaikoura Golf Club.

Sunday, March 27: Kaikoura Farmers Market.

Tuesday, March 29: Kaikoura Squash Club bring a friend night, 5.30pm onwards.

APRIL

Friday, April 1: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3: Kaikoura Volunteer Fire Brigade pig hunt.

Saturday, April 2: Mayoral Challenge bike ride from Mouse Point Culverden or Stag and Spey to Kaikoura, starting at 10am. Register at the Kaikoura District Council.

Sunday, April 3: Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust Haera Nga Titi - Dawn symbolic Farewell to the Hutton's Shearwaters with free BBQ breakfast - meet at South Bay Track Entrance 6.45am.

Only the best for Kaikoura's special seabird

EMMA DANGERFIELD

This Friday marks the opening of the newly-built Hutton's Hub, which will cater for crash-landed Hutton's shearwater birds during their fledging season.

Every year, Hutton's shearwaters are killed or injured when they become disoriented and crash-land around Kaikoura.

The Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust, the Department of Conservation (DOC) and the wider community are teaming up to raise awareness on how to protect and care for the birds.

The FLY SAFE Titi/Hutton's Shearwaters awareness programme will kick off with the opening of the new Hutton's Hub at the Kaikoura DOC office on Ludstone Rd this Friday, March 4 at 10am. The event will also celebrate the start of fledging season.

Special guest speakers include Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust founder Geoff Harrow, DOC deputy director general Tata Lawton, DOC threatened species ambassador Nicola Toki, and Lindsay Rowe, manager of the Kaikoura peninsula Hutton's shearwater colony.

Kaikoura Mayor Winston Gray will cut the ceremonial



The Kaikoura community is asked to be extra vigilant during the Hutton's shearwater fledging season and drop off any crash-landed birds in to the newly-built Hutton's Hub at the Ludstone Rd DOC office. PHOTO: FILE

tape, a string of paper Titi, to mark the opening of the Hub.

There will be music, a barbecue, ice cream, artwork by local students, movies and a chance for everyone to see inside the Hutton's Hub and learn more about the birds.

Fledglings become disoriented by bright lights on their first flight from the mountains to the sea. Many crash-land around Kaikoura during overcast or rainy nights, becoming stranded on flat ground.

To reduce the loss of birds over the next month, people are asked to turn off any non-essential outside lights, drive carefully to avoid birds that may have landed on roads and keep cats and dogs indoors at night.

If people find a Hutton's shearwater in the street or on their property, they should pick it up, keep it safe in a cardboard box, and not try to warm it up. Any crash landed birds should be dropped off at the Hutton's Hub.

The birds will be fitted with a

uniquely numbered stainless steel band, then weighed and measured before being released at sea.

The sites where crash-landed birds are found are being documented and will be analysed by students from the University of Canterbury.

Logs for recording crash-landed birds can be found at DOC, Kaikoura District Council, Encounter Kaikoura, Whale Watch Kaikoura and Kaikoura schools.

Sunday, April 10: Kaikoura Farmers Market.

Wednesday, April 13: Love the Lyell planting day, behind Mitre 10.

Friday, April 15: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Saturday, April 16: Schoolyard Market.

Monday, April 18 to Friday, April 22: Sport Tasman Holiday Programme.

Saturday, April 23: Schoolyard Market.

Sunday, April 24: Kaikoura Farmers Market.

Sunday, April 24: Harris Meats Anzac Day Tournament, Kaikoura

Golf Club.

Tuesday, April 26: Kaikoura Garden Club, 1.30pm at Kaikoura Bowling Club, Ludstone Road. Visitors welcome.

MAY

Friday, May 6: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Friday, May 20: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Saturday, May 21: Schoolyard Market.

Monday, May 23: Closing date for Trash Fashion entries.

Tuesday, May 24: Kaikoura Garden Club, 1.30pm at Kaikoura Bowling Club, Ludstone Road. Visitors welcome.

JUNE

Friday, June 3: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Saturday, June 4: Schoolyard Market.

Wednesday, June 8: World Oceans Day and Kaikoura beach clean.

Friday, June 17: Kaikoura Spinning and Craft Group, 10am to 2pm, Heartlands Services, Beach Rd.

Friday, June 17 and Saturday,

June 18: The Recycled Trash Fashion Show 2016.

Tuesday, June 28: Kaikoura Garden Club, 1.30pm at Kaikoura Bowling Club, Ludstone Road. Visitors welcome.

Events

Send details for Star listings to emma.dangerfield@fairfaxmedia.co.nz. Please include the venue, address, the event name, date, time and cost.

PUBLIC INVITED TO JOIN THE DAWN 'FAREWELL' FOR KAIKOURA'S ENDANGERED HUTTON'S SHEARWATER

The Hutton's shearwater is an endangered seabird that breeds only in the Kaikoura region, with Kaikoura now literally being their last place on earth.

A Farewell ceremony is held each year by the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust, to celebrate chicks successfully fledging from the artificial Kaikoura Peninsula/Te Rae O Atiu colony. At the end of the breeding season in March-April, Hutton's shearwaters migrate to the warm coastal waters off western Australia where they feed during the winter period, before returning each August-September to breed in Kaikoura.

This year the Farewell will be recognised as the celebratory end of the new annual month-long 'Fly Safe Hutton's Shearwater/Titi' event – which aims to increase awareness for Hutton's shearwater fledglings crash landing around the Kaikoura township due to light disorientation.

The Farewell ceremony will be held on Sunday 3 April 2016. All are welcome, meet at the South Bay

carpark at 6:45am, from where the walk to the colony begins.

Trustee Lindsay Rowe says that the Kaikoura Peninsula colony translocation project was initiated in 2005 as an insurance colony for this endangered species, which now only has two wild colonies remaining in the sub-alpine zone of the Seaward Kaikoura Range.

About 300 chicks were initially translocated to the artificial colony from the Kowhai River colony between 2005 and 2008, where they were reared on sardine smoothies in man-made burrows. A further translocation of 200 chicks occurred in 2012 and 2013. Of over 40 shearwaters that fledged from the original translocation some have already returned to breed, and the first of the 2012 birds returned this year. The first chick to hatch and fledge here in Kaikoura was in April 2012; while this year 7 chicks will fledge and depart Kaikoura in late March.

Hutton's shearwaters have high nest site fidelity, meaning they always return to breed at their rearing site. In

order to find their place in the world, the chicks wander out of their burrows each night to 'imprint' on the sky and landscape. Upon fledging the chicks undertake a huge journey, migrating to the coastal waters off western Australia. There they spend their first 3-4 years as immature birds, before returning to Kaikoura for their first breeding attempt. Imprinting ensures that the birds are able to return to their colony site – relying on celestial and magnetic cues for navigation during their ocean travels.

With 160 artificial burrows now available within the predator-proof fence (completed in 2010) that protects the colony, Mr Rowe hopes the colony will eventually expand to hold up to 10,000 birds.

To find out more about this unique seabird, please visit the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust Facebook page and website.

See: <https://www.facebook.com/HuttonsShearwater> and <http://www.huttonsshearwater.org.nz>

FACT BOX

The Seaward Kaikoura Range is home to the Hutton's shearwater, a unique seabird which is only one of two shearwater species breeding exclusively on the New Zealand mainland.

Over the years both the birds range and population have declined significantly, and are now listed as an endangered species.

Once found throughout the Seaward Kaikoura Range, they are now restricted to only two wild colonies, which contain 70 per cent of the known breeding pairs.

