

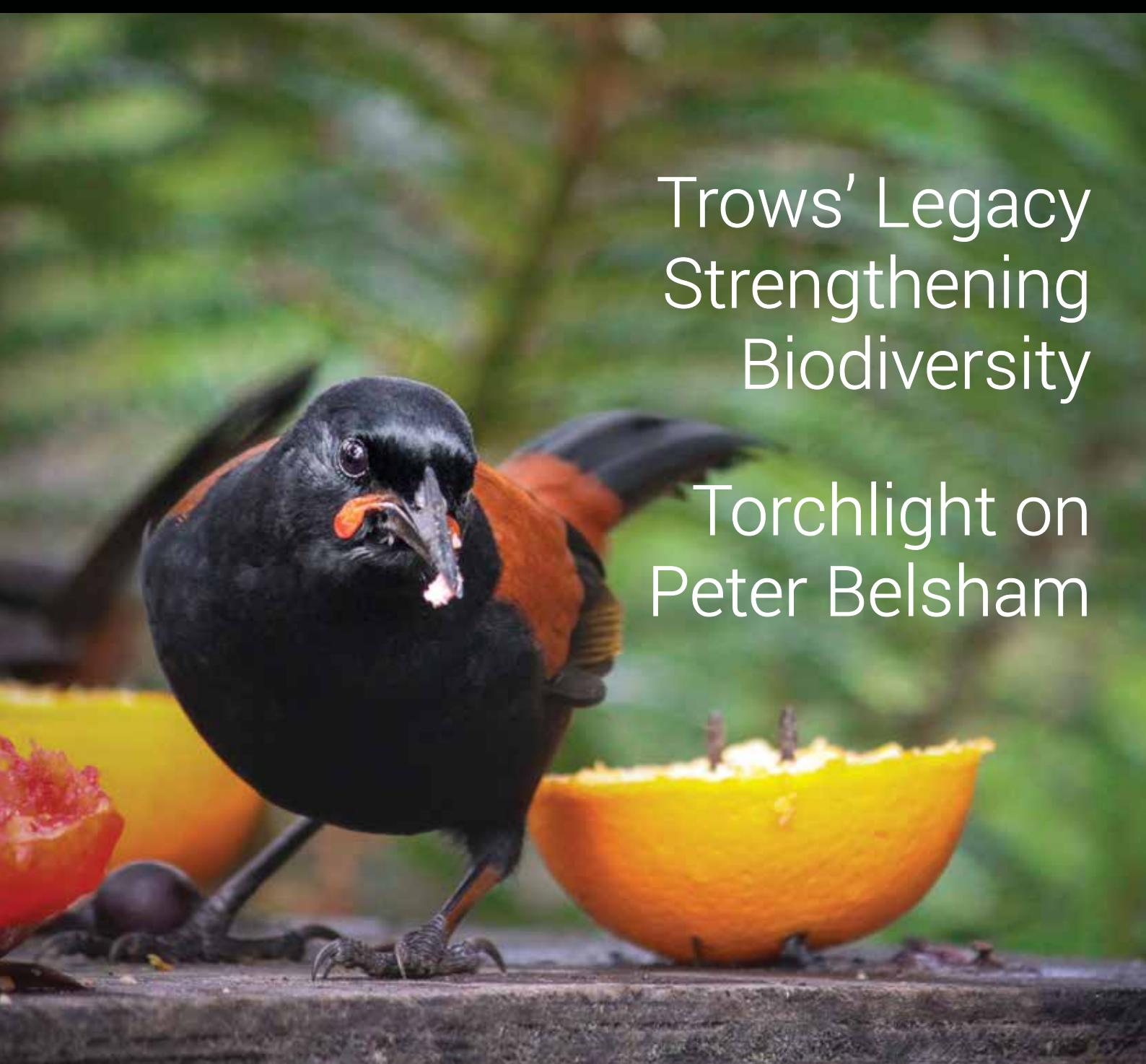
#25
DEC 2023

TīTī Times

MĀTAURANGA ISSUE

Trows' Legacy
Strengthening
Biodiversity

Torchlight on
Peter Belsham



Kā tangi te tītī.
Kā tangi te kākā.
Kā tangi hoki ahau.
Tihei mauriora.

The tītī is calling.
The kākā is calling,
and I wish to call.
Behold for there is life.

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Cover image: Ros Cole

Foreword image: *Tītī add to the dark of sunset as they come home to their burrows on Putauhinu.*

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Kupu whakataki/Foreword

Editor's Korero

Kia ora e te whānau,

Edition 25 Tītī Times is one we think you will really enjoy.

It contains two great feature stories – one of Teresa and Russel Trow and their decades long mahi to save many of our endangered and threatened species. The photographs are great too. Most were taken by the Department of Conservation's Roz Cole.

The second story is a reminder of how life on the Tītī Islands can better equip us for life in tough environments. 86-year-old Peter Belsham remembers his time on the islands with great fondness, but he also credits his ability to cope in the Malaya War with the early experiences he had on the Tītī Islands.

Other reports in this edition include coverage of the Southland Community Awards where the Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body was a finalist. We didn't win, but we felt proud that our collective mahi as birders was well-recognised. In addition, one of our committee members Jane Kitson (a trustee of Te Waiau Mahika Kai Trust), took out the Biodiversity and Biosecurity award. Big congratulations to Jane!

Jane also gives us a run down on some social research the science team is doing to better understand why harvesting tītī is important to you and your whānau's priorities for the future.

We provide an update on where we are at with the Rakiura Tītī Islands Management Plan, which is now out for consultation.

We also have an update on the science programme from Phil Lyver and an avian flu update. Birders are encouraged to keep an eye out for signs of sick birds in light of recent overseas outbreaks.

Rangatahi are not missing out in this edition either. We have a competition to design an image for clothing that reflects our predator-free work. Kids – check out p12 for details.

Thanks to all those who provided feedback on the last edition. We are still in the early stages of bringing you a more modern and people-friendly Tītī Times and we welcome all of your thoughts and suggestions. We will be making much more use of the website in the future as well. This will be a useful platform for publishing feedback and letters to the editor.

We hope you enjoy reading this over the Christmas break. Enjoy the holidays and see you at the permit meetings.

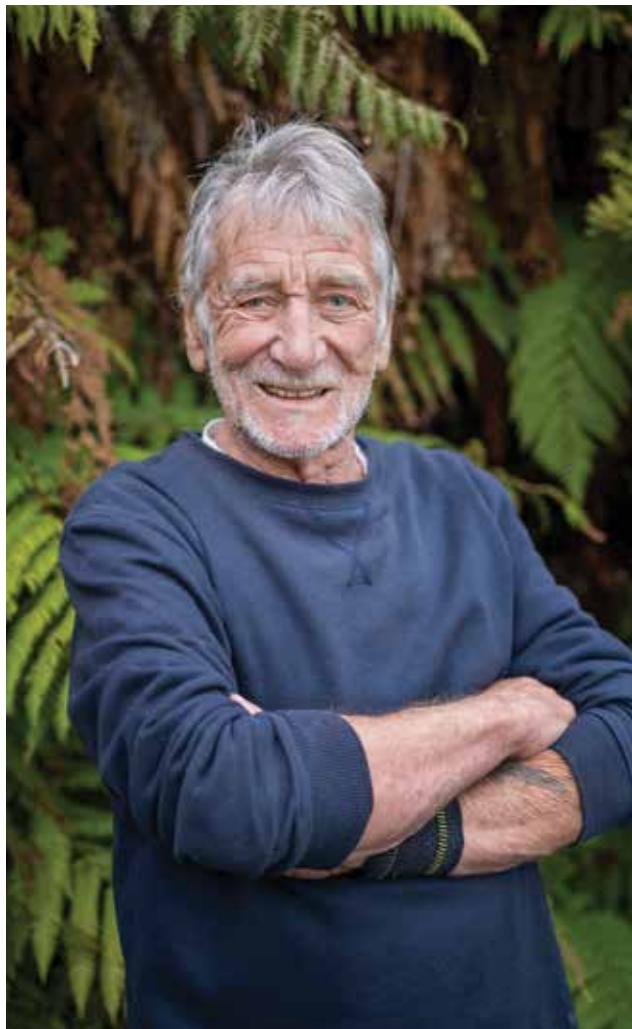
Tina Nixon

Editor

Trows' Legacy Strengthening Biodiversity

I sit in an Invercargill Café with Russel Trow, and he takes me through records of the work he and his wife, Teresa, have made over their years together in their endeavours to help save so many of our taonga bird species.

Russel has been birding on Kundy Island for 72 years; Teresa 55 years. Both exude an energy that for most of us is lost after youth. Maybe it is connected to the passion and the unwavering mahi that have been their drivers over a lifetime of commitment to native biodiversity. They certainly look and act a good deal younger than their calendar years.



While Russel loves muttonbirding he loves Kundy and the flora and fauna more. The work he and Teresa have done over decades has played a huge part in giving the Tieke and other vulnerable species a fighting chance.

Tieke Takeback

Some of the best evidence of a biodiversity revival on Kundy which can be accredited to the Trows is the takeback of the island by the tīke (saddleback). In six short years from 1978 the tīke population on Kundy flourished once more and allowed the first transfers of this species from Kundy to Putauhinu.

- In 1986 22 Kundy tīke were flown to Jacky Lees and in 1992, 30 tīke were transferred to Breaksea.
- In 1995 Kundy became home to its first mātātā (fernbird) the quiet shy bird with the mournful song. They are thriving.
- In 1999 30 tīke were transferred to Pohowaitai, 13 meaweka (Banded Rail) to Kundy from the Snares and Robins were transferred to Putauhinu to Pohowaitai.
- Then there was a gap before the transfers started again in 2011 and this time it was the whānau from Big Moki that received 38 tīke from Kundy.
- In 2012 29 tīke were sent to Puwai and 11 to Little Moki and 8 were transferred from Pouwaitai to Solomons.
- In 2015 a new bird was entered into the mix with 18 tutukiwi (snipe) being transferred from Putauhinu to Kundy.
- In 2017 Russell and Teresa were on an expedition to The Snares to gather more tutukiwi – 25 were given a new home on Kundy. The trip was made possible with a funding grant from Woodside.
- In 2018 Tia was given 50 tīke from Kundy.
- In 2019 10 tīke were given to Kaimohu and 11 were taken from Kaimohu to go back to Kundy and 34 tīke were given to Breaksea from Kundy.
- The Kaimohu transfers were to help with the genetic diversity of the birds.

Mist nets are used to collect the birds. It takes three to four days to net them. Ros Cole (Biodiversity Ranger) from the Department of Conservation and Peter McClelland (Island Restoration Advisor) take blood samples to ensure that there is some genetic variability.



Russel says it takes three or four days and a dedicated team to catch the tutukiwi.

There is an aviary built on the island to house the birds while they await transfer. Russel enjoys working in the aviary. It's his happy place. 'It's magic and something I really enjoy, being in there with all the birds. When someone else says they will do it I think – bugger!'

The Trow whānau are constantly checking on the birds and undertake regular surveys. 'Pete McClelland taught us what we need to do to record information, so we have some good records and observations for the future,' Russel says.

One such observation for Russel was a fairy prion in a 'weird tangle' in the trees. What he witnessed is probably a real-life horror of the natural world. The surface-skimming prions are falling victim to a nematode worm which wraps itself around the feet of the birds tying them together, so they get caught in trees and die as a result. 'It's horrible to see and the scientists are looking into it.'

While the transfers have been hugely successful for most species, the tutukiwi are not doing so well on Kundy. 'The meaweka are thriving but the tutukiwi – well we are not sure what's happening. It's disappointing but they are doing okay on Putauhinu.' For this reason, dogs are now banned from Kundy. 'They are just too dangerous to have around with so many birds down low.'

Recently Russel and Teresa and some committee members travelled to the Oronui sanctuary north of Dunedin

as that Trust has requested some tīke. If all is well and the committee and Russel and Teresa are confident that it is a safe environment, then the first transfer of tīke to the mainland from Kundy and Putauhinu will commence. Requests for transfers are coming into the committee all the time and each one is carefully assessed.



Russel and Teresa.

Our Tītī Islands and whānau like the Trows are playing a huge part in this important restoration of NZ's biodiversity. And the Trow's enthusiasm is contagious.

While they have no children of their own — Teresa and Russel's knowledge and humble guidance will still be infused into the future whakapapa of their whānau. Their niece, Jan Trow, as well as their nephew, Bosun, and grandnieces Storm and Aurora appear to have all caught the biodiversity bug.

At their bush-drenched home in Bluff there are mist nets hung out for Aurora to practice catching sparrows. She is learning from her great uncle and Pete McClelland the delicate skill of extracting tiny birds from the nets so she can help with the bird transfers of the future. Like Jane Kitson, Michael Stevens and Corey Bragg before her, the island and its rhythms are guiding Aurora to a possible career in science, something which delights Teresa and Russel.

'She comes round, and we show her some of the tricks to catch and take the birds out of the nets and band them. She is doing well and is really keen to learn,' says Russel with understandable pride.

Aurora, Storm and Bosun will undoubtedly carry forward the passion and matauranga Māori from these two quiet, unassuming but great conservationists whose legacy is playing a critical part in the restoration of many vulnerable taonga species.

While our tītī tikanga is what makes us who we are as tītī birders, it is our kaitiakitanga, which spans all birds, that is arguably our greatest achievement. Guardianship and protection of our taonga species is important for the whole of Aotearoa. At the forefront of this mahi are Russel and Teresa. But others have contributed greatly too, including the Department of Conservation's Ros Cole and independent wildlife consultant Pete McClelland. As well as Ros and Peter at DOC, Tane Davis has been a great support and organiser to make things happen. 'So, there have been some very good people who have worked with us.' Russel also pays tribute to the late Margaret Bragg who helped organise the first transfers from Big Island. 'Margaret and Janey Davis were pivotal in ensuring the survival of the Saddlebacks'.

And that good work has translated into a sustainable future for these precious species.

War On Weka

Russel isn't a loud man, but he talks with a caring gruffness about the work they started on Kundy Island so many decades ago. Their first challenge was to get rid of the weka. Weka were introduced to our islands to provide an extra food source and are not indigenous to the Tītī Islands. We now know they kill tītī chicks and many other lower dwelling bird species. Their impact has been well-documented in previous Tītī Times. Many small, endangered birds, including our tītī, nest and live close to the ground, providing easy pickings for weka.

Once the weka were exterminated, the next challenge was to transfer birds from neighbouring islands — most fighting for their very existence — onto the newly created sanctuary of Kundy.

In 1978 the first of the saddlebacks — tīeke — were transferred from Big Island to Kundy. There were 38 in total. Since then, 294 tīeke have been transferred to many other Tītī Islands from Kundy. There have been others involved in bird transfers, such as the whānau from both Big and Putauhinu, but the concentrated effort of the Trows is astonishing.

Russel's collection of little notebooks detail such transfers as well as other milestones. This a great example of how our people record things. We know knowledge and data is important. It is our matauranga Māori.

On 22 September 2023, Russel tells me with some pride, the last weka on Kundy was killed.



The next generation of Trow/Metzgers learning from their aunty and uncle. From left to right Storm, Teresa, Aurora, Bosun.



Torchlight on Peter Belsham

What do jungle warfare and birding have in common? Quite a lot, it turns out. Peter Belsham would know. He's done both.

Peter is a truly seasoned birder. He is 86. His rights to harvest come from the Te Au whānau bloodline. Harriet (Pat) Violet Belsham (nee Te Au) was his grandmother. Her son, Francis Mathew Belsham, was his father. Although his mother, Agnes Wadsworth, had no rights, she and Francis visited the family island for over thirty years.

Peter's whānau island is Rerewhakaupoko (Solomon Island) – a 30ha forested island and one of three South Cape Islands off the south-west coast of Rakiura. 'My mother always told me my first time to the islands was on Timaru, Big South Cape. I was only 16 months old and we lived in a small round house with my great grandmother, Tutina Te Au.'

Peter's earliest memories of travelling to the Tītī Islands go back to 1945. Like most of the birding families at the time, his whānau departed in boats from Colac Bay/Ōraka. Families would make the journey to Colac Bay from Whakapatu by horse and dray.

Chores began prior to the time of arrival on the island. At Colac Bay, the women would cut the flax for making baskets and then strip it and dry it. The men went down to the coast to cut bull kelp, which was hollowed out by hand and hung on a line to dry.

Bark from native trees at Colac Bay was initially used to basket the kelp bags of tītī. However, to do this required the trees to be ring-barked. Eventually, it was realised that

native trees were being extinguished, so lake and pond weed has since been used instead. 'Rapu' is now cut in bundles about the size of a kelp bag.

Three vessels would be waiting at Colac Bay; the Kekeno, captained by the late Harry Roderique, the Britannia, captained by the late Billy Dixon, and another scow, the name of which Peter can't recall. When the preparation work was complete, families, along with their gear, would be rowed out to the boats. Often, this undertaking alone would present its share of challenges. Peter recalls a particularly rough crossing on the Kekeno which began with every passenger soaking wet through - just from making the trip to the boat in the dinghy. The ensuing trip to the islands themselves was so rough that waves were breaking over the ship. Everybody was sodden. Most of the muttonbird gear had been lost. And then, 'my grandmother (Aunty Pat Belsham), was heard to say, 'By God Harry Roderique, you'll drown us all and I will never speak to you again!' Everybody aboard laughed. Secretly we all agreed he was a great seaman.

'In those days there were very few houses. But we were always glad to get ashore after those rough trips!' he says. While rowing ashore, the island's aroma stirs excitement in the passengers' veins. The earthly smells of the flora and fauna evoke a sense of enchantment. This is reinforced by the sight of the tītī's nightly homecoming. The birds collect in their hundreds offshore. They begin to rise and circle the area containing their burrows. Then a thud can be heard, followed by soft scuffling sounds. The first of the birds is soon followed by many more.

The roads, during Peter's early visits, were gravel, not bitumen, like today. 'I can still see my father on his bike, loaded down with rapu and kelp bags, just freshly cut,' Peter says.

It was certainly tough going. There were no radios in those days, so if anybody got sick, a fire was lit on the rocks to signify that somebody needed assistance.' But boats were few and far between. 'And you only saw them at what we called 'half time', when whānau on the mainland would send goodies down such as food and plenty of chocolate!'

Peter agrees that his birding days equipped him well for his stint with the First Battalion New Zealand Regiment in Malaya. Being used to the bush meant that putting up camps was second nature. He was also well-acquainted with surviving off ration packs. 'During the birding season, you only had a limited amount of food.' Another thing to contend with was the fact that the ration packs in Malaya were packaged in 1945. 'And this was 1958!'

While stationed in Malaya, there were small animals the platoon would catch to supplement their rations. 'We used to raid the paddy fields for fresh veges, but we weren't supposed to do this. The paddy fields were not very hygienic if you get what I mean..' What he means, is that latrines were spread throughout the paddy fields to help the crops grow.

Operating in a jungle environment was also not unknown to Peter. 'When we were tracking people, or walking and scouting through dense jungle, you had to make things out of nothing. I've always been used to that. On the islands, we learnt different catching and preserving methods, because they were tough times in those days.'

During Peter's second year in Malaya, his father sent over a gallon-sized paint tin with six salted tītī inside. 'I had to go down to customs and tell them what mutton birds were before they would let me take them away! My platoon was three-quarters Māori boys and when we cooked them up with water cress boy, oh boy, they were good. There wasn't a bit of meat or fat left on the bone!'

Peter hasn't been back to Rerewhakaupoko since 1960. Upon his return from Malaya in 1959, he learned that his father had died on the island. 'He was a man of great mana,' Peter recalls. Losing Francis has cast the island in a

new light for Peter. The place now holds a sense of loss and foreboding which has kept him away.

The memories remain, though. Cast in the sanctuary of childhood. Untouched and unfettered and magical.

Previous page: 86 yr old (Peter) Francis Belsham remembers, with great clarity, many seasons birding with his whānau. The lessons he learned on the island stood him in good stead when he found himself in the Malayan jungle as a young soldier.

Below: Francis Belsham's medals.

Bottom: Francis Belsham's Platoon (he is left on the end of front row).



Front, Left to Right: L/Cpl. Belsham AR, Pte. Tashman WH, Pte. Jones TA, Pte. Blackler TK, Pte. Black D, Pte. Dymock EJ.
Central, Left to Right: Pte. Ingram RV, Pte. Murray TD, Pte. Scoull D, Pte. Hulley F, Pte. Massey RW, Pte. Reid JM, Pte. Cawthron SP.
Front, Left to Right: L/Cpl. Belsham FP, Pte. Johnson EAGH, Pte. Jennings R, Cpl. Stucler BD, L/Cpl. Power PW, Sgt. Ashby LC, Cpl. Henderson HD, Pte. Marquet HF, Pte. Cawthron GC.

Avian Influenza – advice and guidance for the Tītī Islands community

What is Avian Influenza?

Avian Influenza also called 'bird flu', is a contagious viral disease that infects both domestic and wild birds around the world.

Most of the time, infected birds do not show symptoms of being sick. In rare cases though, they can develop severe illness.

New Zealand has not yet had a reported case of Avian Influenza (AI). Given its geographic isolation and stringent border biosecurity, the risk of AI entering New Zealand is relatively low.

An outbreak of the disease has recently been reported in South America, in a region where some NZ migratory birds breed. There is a small chance of at-sea transmission with tītī at sites where many birds congregate to feed.

Although these viruses do not usually infect people, there have been some rare cases of human infection.

The most obvious sign of AI in birds is several dead birds. As well as sudden mortality, lethargy (reluctance to move) and reduced appetite are sometimes observed.

How is AI spread?

AI mostly spreads when infected birds come into contact with healthy birds. It can also be passed on when birds come into contact with contaminated water, food, faeces, or secretions from infected birds.

Wild waterfowl, such as ducks and geese, are considered to be the most frequent hosts and transmitters of the disease. Seabirds, such as gulls, terns and shorebirds have also been known to host it.

New Zealand migratory birds, which come into contact with other species around the world, pose the biggest risk of infection and transmission.

Birds which nest in large numbers, such as tītī, are at increased risk of contracting AI.

What can the Tītī Island community do to help prevent the spread of AI?

Practice good biosecurity and hygiene practices. This includes:

- Maintain good biosecurity practices with gear going to the island
- Keeping separate birding equipment on the Tītī Islands where possible (ie don't travel to and from the mainland with it).
- Encourage your whānau to adopt these methods of good practice by talking to them about diseases and the risk it poses to the Tītī Island community.
- Let the RTIAB and/or RTC committees know if you see anything out of the ordinary
- Report sick or dying birds to Biosecurity New Zealand's Exotic Pest and Disease hotline 0800 80 99 66. Make sure you wait for instructions before handling any dead or dying birds!

LETS WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR TĪTĪ DISEASE FREE!



Dead birds are a fact of life on the Tītī islands, but we ask that birders remain vigilant for any unusual numbers of deaths of any species. Take pics of anything you think is unusual.

Tracking Changes in Tītī: A Rakiura Māori Monitoring System for Tītī

Kaitiaki recognise the importance of tracking changes in their taonga to inform management decisions. Customary practices have been built on long-term experiential knowledge and adaptive management. Therefore, local monitoring methods reflect how kaitiaki think about and interact with their environment. Rakiura birder knowledge about the state and health of tītī and the islands will be vital for management of the islands and tītī in the face of rapidly changing environmental and climate conditions.

The key focus for this study is the creation of a kaitiaki-based monitoring survey that helps birding communities to track the wellbeing of tītī populations on their islands. How do we know how plentiful the tītī are? Tools such as birder harvest diaries have been hugely informative and beneficial to past research and management. Harvest diary data were pivotal to identifying the relationship tītī have with El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and building the population models to understand the effects of ENSO, weka and harvest.

We also want to explore the range of other harvest-related and experiential tohu (e.g., observational and other sensory cues) used by birders to inform them about the state and condition of tītī populations and island ecosystems. These might include changes in burrow densities or number of chicks down burrows, the condition of chicks each season, number of adults in the sky returning at night, the sound of adults departing the morning, the type of food being fed to the chick, the smell of the islands or how dry the season was. All these various tohu can be 'fitted together' to provide an overall understanding and impression of population or island health.

To do this work we'd like to use historic interviews conducted 20 years ago, conduct some new surveys and interviews, hold wānanga with past or currently active birders and where possible utilise the information from harvest diaries maintained by birders. We'd also like to trial an annual online survey approach with birders which might have questions relating to relevant tohu.

Phil Lyver

Kaikiakitanga Decisions and Birders

From 1997 to 2000, Jane Kitson conducted research on the immense importance of tītī and *heke ano kai tītī* to the Rakiura Māori community. This provided documented evidence on the practices of tītī harvesting and local tikanga, as well as how these have changed over time. Whānau interested in this work can contact Jane Kitson for additional information and a copy of this research.

Now, 20 years on, Jane and researchers from Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | the University of Canterbury are hoping to follow-up on this work in collaboration with the Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body (RTIAB). They are looking to understand the connections between tītī, birding practices and community wellbeing, with an eye to possible future changes in the tītī population and how kaitiakitanga decisions may shape birding practices. This work will involve recording birder accounts for future generations, assisting in maintaining the knowledge and oral histories of the community.

Researchers are looking to talk to Rakiura Māori birders and whānau to understand their experiences with tītī

harvesting. This will be an opportunity for birders to share their stories and what harvesting means to them. The goal is to gather information on the importance that birders and their whānau place on the tītī harvest, and their priorities going forward.

As Rakiura Māori birders are central decision-makers, this information is intended to support any community decision-making processes surrounding management of tītī harvests. Rakiura Māori management systems and tikanga are highly capable of adaptation to this changing environment, with the diversity of birder whānau on the Rakiura Tītī Islands being key strengths which will allow for the community to adapt as situations require.

Researchers hope this information will help the community understand the possible impacts of changes (if any) that birders and their whānau are currently thinking about. This way, the birding community will understand any potential long-term impacts of any proposed changes to their Rakiura Māori identity, *mana*, and values.

Jane Kitson

RTIAB Finalists in Environment Southland Community Awards

The Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body (RTIAB) was delighted to be a finalist in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity category at the recent Environment Southland Community Awards.

It's long-standing efforts to maintain predator control and protect biodiversity in the Tītī Islands were recognised as 'projects and actions that support biodiversity and/or biosecurity in Southland.' Their mahi was identified as having a clear aim and being able to demonstrate significant progress.

Chair Tane Davis told the judges that Rakiura Māori have a fundamental connection to the Tītī Islands. 'Our mahi is about upholding the mana of the islands and tītī culture, and about retaining things that are unique to us,' he said. For many years now, the islands have been a sanctuary for taonga species, thanks to the efforts of a group of dedicated Ngāi Tahu whānau, who have been working to safeguard the islands from the predators that threaten the rarest and most endangered wildlife.

Protecting existing species and reintroducing taonga species, such as tīeke (saddleback) and toutouwai (Stewart

Island robin) have been priorities. We are leading the way with several more species translocations on the horizon too.

RTIAB's entry showcased excellent examples of collective whanaungatanga, including relationship-building, and enablement of wider communities to come together to work towards common biodiversity goals. Through this work, it has built capacity and enhanced educational opportunities relating to biodiversity and predator control.

Tane says that even though the committee did not win the category – it was a proud moment to see the work of what three generations of birders are now doing to support the islands, recognised in the highly regarded awards. 'Above all, it's about the islands,' Tane explained to the judges. 'Ko mātou kā motu, ko kā motu ko mātou. We are the islands, and the islands are us.'

Tane also acknowledged the work of the Waiau Mahika Kai Trust, which won the same category. RTIAB member Jane Kitson holds a place on this board, as well as RTIAB. 'The work that group is doing is outstanding, and we are very proud that our Jane, a highly regarded conservation leader in New Zealand, was part of the winning team.'

Ngā mihi nui ki a koe Jane!



Jane Kitson – second from right was part of the team that took out top honours at the recent Southland Community Environment Awards.

The Rakiura Tītī Island Administering Body was a finalist in the same category. Jane is a RTIAB committee member.

Management Plan Released for Consultation

After two years of solid work, much of it under Covid, the Management Plan for the former Crown Tītī Islands is now out for consultation.

Under the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement 1997, the Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body (RTIAB) is required to administer and manage the 18 Rakiura Tītī Islands (the Islands) as if they were a nature reserve subject to the customary rights of Rakiura Māori to harvest tītī on a sustainable basis.

RTIAB has had an obligation to prepare a Management Plan to guide this mahi. The Management Plan is to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation of the Rakiura Tītī Islands, and to manage their development, as appropriate.

The process for developing and reviewing the Management Plan is set out in the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 (Schedule 110). RTIAB has followed this process and has included several opportunities to seek input from RTIAB members, birders, Rakiura Māori and scientists and researchers working with us.

The Management Plan is now available for public consultation. Anyone can make a written submission.

The closing date for submissions is 8 January 2024, and the Management Plan can be viewed on the website at: <https://www.rakiuratitiislands.nz/management-plan-review>

RTIAB will hold a hearing to consider submissions on 9 February 2024 in Murihiku at the Ascot Park Hotel. If you would like to appear at a hearing to speak to your written submission, then this must be indicated in your submission.

The Management Plan will be updated based on the decision of the hearing committee and will be submitted to the Minister of Conservation for approval by the end of June 2024.

We would like to thank everyone who has emailed, phoned or attended hui to help us work through some pretty complex issues. It has been heartening to engage with a range of our whānau, in particular some rangatahi who have been involved too.

We are confident that this Management Plan remains true to our tikanga while reflecting our responsibilities to the laws which govern us all.

Process undertaken to review plan

Boxes in orange are required by legislation, while steps in blue were additional steps to seek input from Rakiura Māori and scientists/researchers working with the RTIAB



Comp Time Calling all Creative Kids!

Haere Mai Rangatahi! It's Comp Time!

There are plenty of you out there doing awesome mahi with your whānau helping to keep our islands free of predators and full of birds. It's time we acknowledged this and celebrate what you're doing. Even better, lets shout it out to the rest of Aotearoa.

So here's the brief. It's pretty simple. We want a great design for hoodies and t-shirts that represents '*protecting our whenua from pests*'.

Get as creative as you like. Feel free to use humour. Or be serious if you are seriously a serious person. Just give us your best design! There are basically no boundaries. Oh, but we won't put your phone number on a hoodie. We don't do hook ups.

We also want to have our RTIAB logo feature somewhere on the clothing too. This could be on the chest or sleeves or back.

We want to see Toi Māori in the design and a Māori name – you can choose – it could be something along the lines of Kaitiaki O Murihiku or O Rakiura, for example, but we are open to suggestions.



Have your work immortalised. Be our super-hero of design and be featured in the next Tītī Times edition 26. So you get to be seriously famous as well with a cool pic to give to your nana. (Watch out though – your Poua might just 'borrow' your hoodie and not ever give it back.)

We will have prizes! Like an iPad or a cool phone or a rat trap – cos you can never have enough rat traps. The winner's hoodie will have their design printed on it. We'll make them available for you all to purchase early 2024. So tell all your mates and get designing over Christmas. Deadline is January 20th.

All entries to tinanixon@gmail.com

