

# SANCTUARY NEWS

OCTOBER 2019



## Our Mission

To enrich the community through the restoration and guardianship of an indigenous Marlborough Sounds wildlife sanctuary, in which the natural ecosystems, native flora and fauna flourish in a predator-free environment that can be appreciated by all.

## This month:

- Chairman's Comment
- The Art of Citizen Science
- Sights of Spring
- Those Pesky Pests
- Our Sponsors

## Contact Us



info@kaipupupoint.co.nz



www.kaipupupoint.co.nz



www.facebook.com/kaipupupoint

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

As I sit down to write this the weather is definitely warmer, spring is finally here after a few false starts. With the warmer weather it is now all go out on Kaipupu, with new monitoring tracks being cut, all part of the final push to bring our trapping up to best practice. A lot of planning by Trudy has gone into this and Rachel has now successfully secured funding so now it is all hands to the pump and full steam ahead.

Over the winter a tracking tunnel network was established on Kaipupu this was spearheaded by volunteers Lee and Rob McPhail a big thank-you

to you both, a big undertaking. Kaipupu has hosted two field trips lately for the Marlborough Cawthorn Environment Awards field day and a trapping workshop. These two trips show cased Kaipupu in a very positive light. It was very satisfying that we could show off our wonderful sanctuary in such a constructive way.

Thank you one and all who help make our sanctuary such a wonderful place to visit.

**Gerald Harper**  
Chairperson



CMEA field day  
PHOTO: BEV DOOLE

**KAIPUPU**  
WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

PICTON - MARLBOROUGH - NZ

# THE ART OF CITIZEN SCIENCE

*Being a citizen scientist is a bit like being a volunteer, you may not call yourself a volunteer or citizen scientist but you may actually be one. The term 'citizen science' was first used in the mid 90's to describe 'the collection and analysis of data relating to the natural world by members of the general public, typically as part of a collaborative project with professional scientists' (Oxford Dictionary definition). This now global movement has seen thousands of citizen science projects pop up around the world including here in New Zealand.*



New Zealand's largest citizen scientist project, The Great Kererū Count uses keen people (or citizen scientists) across New Zealand to help gather information about the distribution and abundance of kererū. Sharing observations of these large birds will help create a picture of where the kererū live, how many there are or aren't, what they are feeding on and most importantly how best to protect them. Sightings of kererū are collected for nine days in September each year, with just over 14,000 kererū counted nationwide this year. Online forums or apps like I-naturalist are also used to help collect information about these species, sometimes observations lead to surprising information about species that would otherwise be unknown. At Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary,

information collected through projects like our lizard survey, five-minute bird counts or pest monitoring help to inform our management decisions and for those involved it provides an opportunity to learn new skills, increase understanding of scientific process, contribute to environmental protection and hopefully create advocates for conservation. Each October we undertake five minute bird counts once a week for three weeks. The repeated counts help to increase the statistical power of our results. If you attended the recent Trapping Workshop you will have heard Nicci McArthur talk about this and for those that didn't study statistics, statistically significant results are important when determining what is actually a trend and what isn't.

For those citizen scientists out there that are keen to contribute to different projects around the world then you should visit [www.zooniverse.org](http://www.zooniverse.org). This website (and app) hosts projects from the arts and literature to nature, physics, space and much more. Here you can help identify solar systems, explore, analyse, and digitize original World War I personnel records or identify predators from trail cam footage. Studies have found that this type of citizen science particularly appeals to 35 – 55 years old, an age group that is often difficult to engage with volunteering. Whether you offer one kererū sighting or sign up every year to help with bird counts - keep up the good work, we couldn't do this without you!

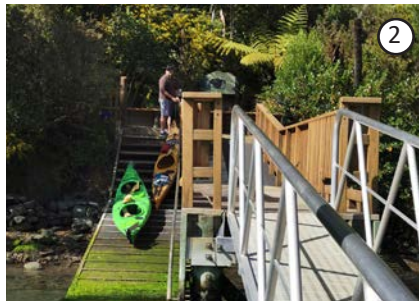
**THIS PHOTO:** A lone kererū atop a tree at Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary

**PHOTO (above):** Counting birds at the Sanctuary in the rain.

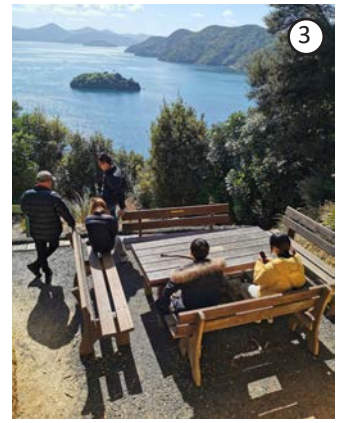




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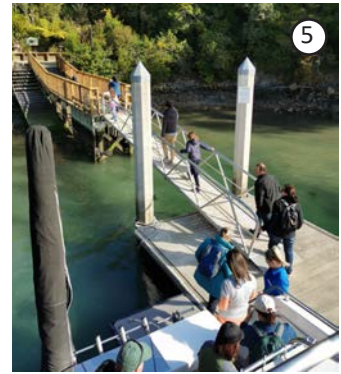


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# SIGHTS OF SPRING



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1. Kaipupu AGM
2. Wilderness Guides visit
3. Marlborough Tour Company's Jing Cai cruise guests at Northern lookout
4. Visiting the Sanctuary with Rata Foundation trustees
5. Sounds, Salmon & Songbirds
6. The first cruise ship of the season - Radiance of the Seas
7. + 8. Marlborough Tour Company boats at jetty
9. Trapping workshop field trip

## DOUBLE THE FUN

During a recent visit to the Sanctuary we dropped in on our penguin parents and discovered that they are very capably looking after two chicks this year. It won't be too long before these guys (or girls) fledge and go off into the big wide world.

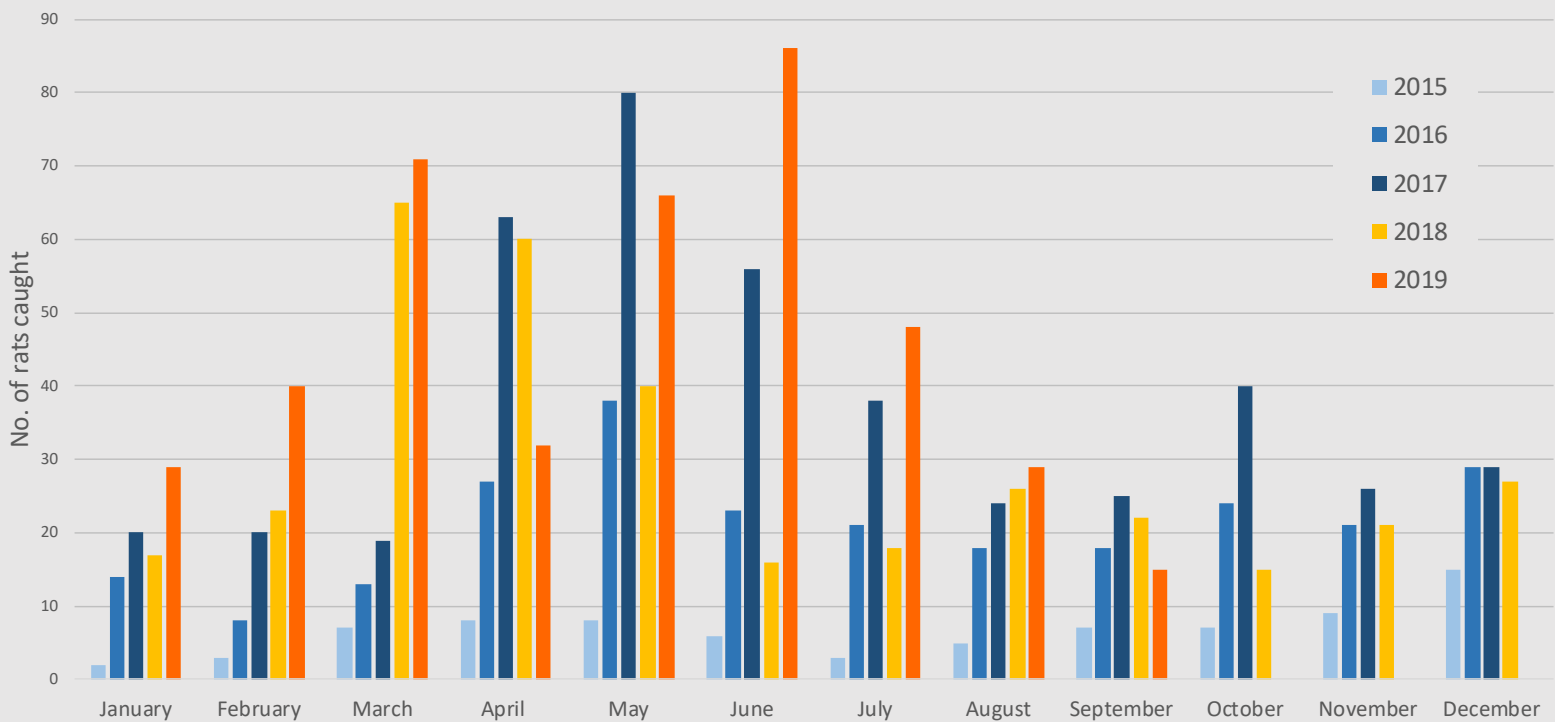
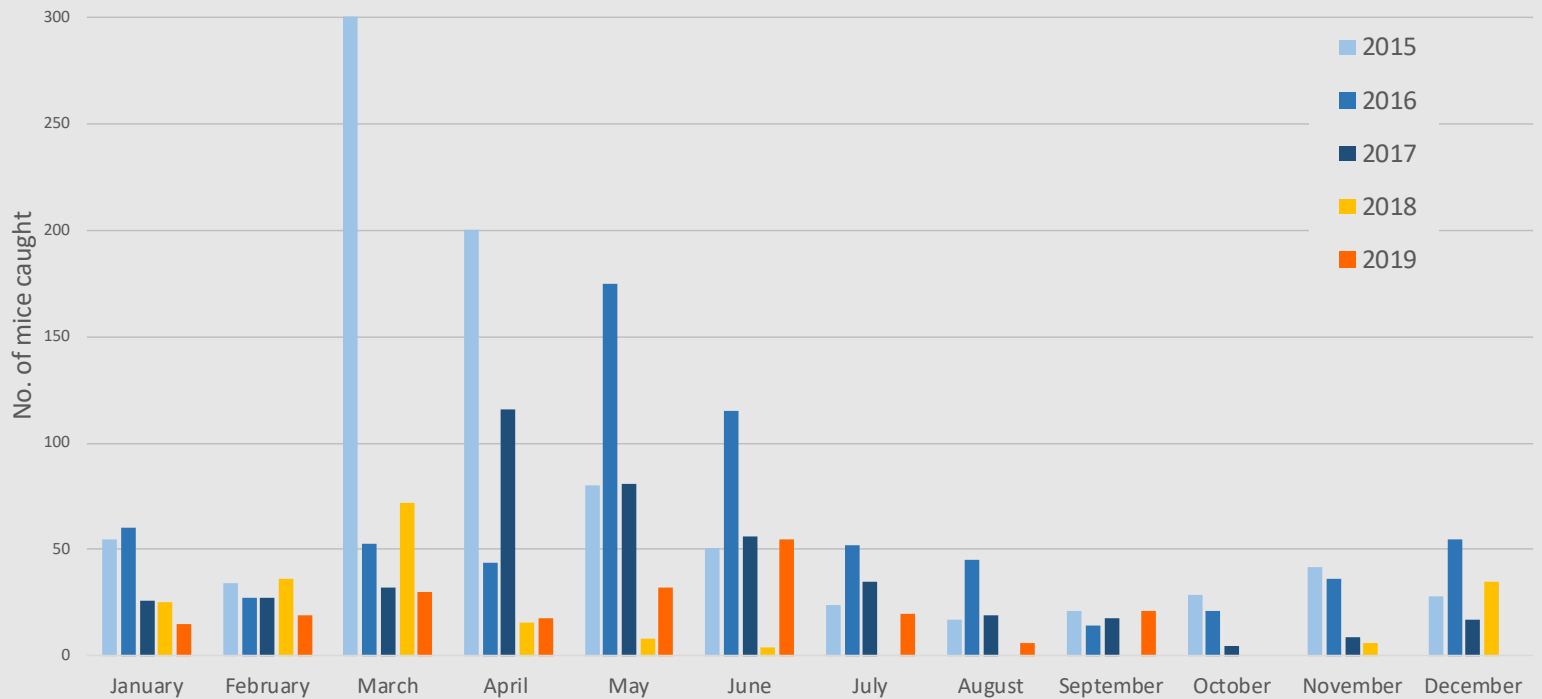
### JUST A REMINDER!

*Please take care when you lift the lids of the boxes and make sure that you turn your flash off on your phone or camera as it may startle the penguins.*





# THOSE PESKY PESTS



As predicted our catch numbers have dropped off from the highs of Autumn and Winter and although we may see a slight rise in October we hope it will not be as dramatic as June this year. In August we put out our first tracking tunnels and we have to say a huge thank you to Rob and Lee McPhail, Gerald Harper, Dan Palmer and our coordinator Trudy Nicholas for the team effort put into

planning and executing this. Our next monitoring round will be held in November and with time we hope to build a picture of the rodent trends at Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary. In the meantime our team are continuing to work on the development of some new tracks to fill gaps in our trapping network and thanks to support from Pub Charity we will have a large number of new

traps to be placed in the next few months. Another massive thank you must go out to our predator control team who head out every weekend to clear and check traps. Over winter this can be particularly wet, muddy and slippery so thank you for your ongoing support with this necessary work.

**Be in to win!**



**BLUEBRIDGE**  
COOK STRAIT FERRIES

## ASK BB - BLUEBRIDGE'S NEW CHATBOT AND WIN

A little blue penguin has taken up residence on the Bluebridge Cook Strait Ferries website! BB is Bluebridge's new chatbot who lives on their website to give you quicker answers to your questions about their ferry service. **Click here** to ask BB your own questions about Bluebridge and see BB in action. BB is a young chick and still learning so the more questions you ask the wiser BB will get. Give BB a try, head to our Facebook page and tell us what you think to be in to WIN a Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary youth T-Shirt and a little blue penguin plush toy! Ts&Cs apply.

Ts&Cs apply, visit [bluebridge.co.nz/winalittlebluepenguinpack/](http://bluebridge.co.nz/winalittlebluepenguinpack/) for details



The weed team are being kept busy at the Sanctuary and are always looking for new helpers. Full training will be given on recognising the target plants and methods of eradication. There are a range of tasks and different physical requirements, so many people would find a level which suited them. Call Judith on 5736275 to discuss signing up.

### OUR NEWSLETTER IS CHANGING

Don't panic though, you will still receive all the exciting news and updates from the Sanctuary but in four information packed newsletters each year - one for every season.

### KEEP IN TOUCH

**WEB** [www.kaipupupoint.co.nz](http://www.kaipupupoint.co.nz)

**EMAIL** [info@kaipupupoint.co.nz](mailto:info@kaipupupoint.co.nz)

[www.facebook.com/KaipupuPoint](http://www.facebook.com/KaipupuPoint)

**VISIT US** 14 Auckland Street, Picton

# THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

## FOUNDATION PARTNERS



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

RIMU (from \$5,000/year)

**BLUEBRIDGE**  
COOK STRAIT FERRIES



KOHEKOHE (from \$300-\$999/year)



## GRANT FUNDING



HONORARY SPONSORS (recognised for assistance with goods or services)



TST Contracting



SPECIAL THANKS TO: Kenny Barging; Le Cafe; Picton ITM; Nigel Hutchinson; Robyn Spence; Marlborough Helicopters; Fulton Hogan; Jordan Family Trust; Tory Channel Contracting; Outward Bound; Sam Contracting; Scenic Hotel Marlborough