

INTO THE NEW YEAR!

Salutations, we hope the New Year has started well for you all! A lot of changes are happening here as we say goodbye to several birds, and welcome a couple of new kiwi eggs just as the breeding season is reaching an end for 2016/2017.

Our juvenile chicks Nui, Shasta and Eustace, have been a real hit in the Nocturnal House.

The best thing about these birds is they get on so well together. Not only do they sleep cuddled up to each other in the same burrow during their 'day time' (when kiwi sleep), but they even take a siesta at 'night time' where they find each other and nap curled up together. They look like big balls of fluff!

We currently have one chick in our viewing area named 'Tipu Huataki' which means 'To begin leading growth'. This kiwi chick is the 10th chick to hatch this season, hatching on the 12th of January weighing 249 grams! Take a look at this photo on the right, taken during hatch!



Here is Tipu 12 hours after hatch! He looked like one very tired little chick, as his feathers began to become dry and fluffy!

We are currently incubating 1 Rowi egg, which is 60 days old. This egg weighs 374 grams, which is just below the average of 400 grams. The egg is looking very well, and we expect the little chick inside to hatch on the 16th of February!

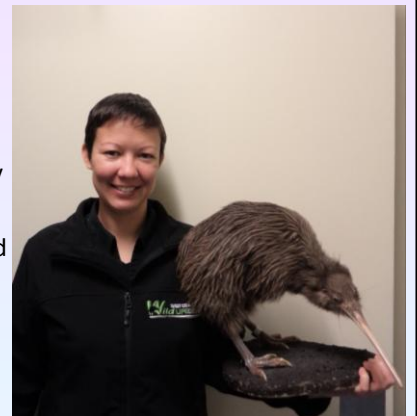
We are delighted to announce the arrival of two new staff members who have travelled all the way from China!

Sydnie has joined us from Beijing and loves visiting different continents! She has decided to take a spell from travelling to work here at the Centre in the Café for the next wee while. Come on in and Sydnie will make you a lovely coffee!



Anqi is from Guangdong, in the Southern area of China. She is currently learning the ropes working in our retail department. Anqi loves animals, playing sports, and reading. It was our National Icon – the Kiwi, that made her decide to move to New Zealand!

We would also like to introduce our Newest Kiwi Ranger Mailee! With a back ground of 10 years in native bird research and conservation in NZ and Australia, Mailee is excited to be a part of the wonderful work the Operation Nest Egg facility at the West coast Wildlife Centre does with Rowi and Haast tokoeka. Mailee has had experience catching North Island Brown Kiwi on Limestone Matakoho Island while working for DOC in Whangarei, and is stoked to now be a part of Kiwi rearing at the West Coast Wildlife Centre. As well as working with Rowi, Mailee will also be taking Backstage Pass Tours, so be sure to book one and meet our newest chick Tipu, and Ranger!



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