

HELLO AND GOODBYE!

This month has led to many changes for us. We say hello to our two newest chicks, and goodbye to one of our oldest!

We want to welcome R.EJ1617.2, who we have named 'Dusk'. This Kiwi chick hatched in the late evening of the 17th of February.

A week later, R.DG1617.3, 'Dawn' hatched at sunrise on the 24th of February.

These two birds are currently on display in our viewing/brooder area, and are doing very well. In a few weeks they will move to our Nocturnal House and become flatmates!

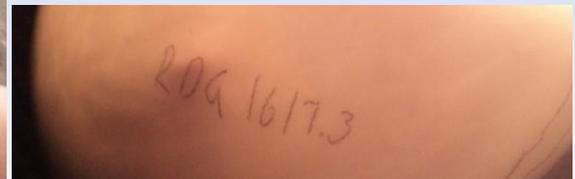
Eggs Incubating	0
Chicks Hatched	12
Rowi in Nocturnal House	2

 **What do the letters and numbers mean?**

Together they make up the kiwi chicks personal code. The first letter 'R' stands for Rowi. The following two letters are the parents' code. The numbers '1617' mean the breeding season – September 2016 to February 2017. The last number indicates what clutch number this egg is. So R.DG is the third egg from these parents this season! In the photo below, you can see a shadow behind the 'D' - its the chicks' bill!

Dusk

Dawn



The photo on the left is Eustace, taken on the 14th of September 2016!

On the 27th of February we said a big goodbye to Eustace, who has been one of the residents in our Nocturnal House for the past 4 months. Eustace is a 'wild chick', who arrived to our facility on the 13th of September, weighing only 247 grams. This chick had hatched in the wild approximately 7 days before coming to us.

Now, Eustace weighs over 1.2 kilograms which means this chick is ready for release – heading to Kaipupu point – the next stage in Operation Nest Egg.

Our remaining two Nocturnal House Birds, Shasta and Nui will also be moving on to the next stage of the program later on in March! Our two newest chicks will be taking their place in our Nocturnal House, so be sure to come in and visit them!

Now look at Eustace in this photo on the right! 5 months on and ready for release!

