



Programme

2018 Wildlife Society Conference: *Dunedin - The Wild South*

23-25 November, Otago Museum & Orokonui Ecosanctuary

Friday 23 November - Otago Museum

8.30am	Registration open
9am	Welcome
9.15am	Morning presentations focusing on local conservation issues and projects
12.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Workshops: Avian reproduction management <i>OR</i> Avian necropsy
4.45pm	Wildlife Society of the NZVA AGM
6.30pm	Conference dinner: Etrusco

Saturday 24 November - Otago Museum

8am	Registration open
8.30am	Morning presentations
12.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Field trips: Royal Albatross Tour <i>OR</i> Monarch Wildlife Cruise and Penguin Place
4.15pm	Royal Albatross Tour ends
7pm	Monarch Wildlife Cruise and Penguin Place ends

Sunday 25 November - Orokonui Ecosanctuary

8.15am	Bus departs Otago Museum
9am	Morning presentations
12.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Orokonui Ecosanctuary tours: Highlights Guided Tour <i>OR</i> Self-Guided Tour First bus departs Orokonui Ecosanctuary for Dunedin
4.30pm	Last bus departs Orokonui Ecosanctuary for Dunedin
5pm	Approximate time of arrival of last bus into Dunedin



Workshops, field trips and tours

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Workshops

	Avian Reproduction Management	Avian Necropsy
Venue	Otago Museum	School of Veterinary Nursing, Otago Polytech
Time	1.30pm - 4.30pm	1.30-4.30pm
Transport	Not required	10 minute walk from Otago Museum
Description	<p>Benefits for the participant: Increase your knowledge and competence with managing and treating common reproductive disorders in avian patients. Reproductive disorders are a common reason for emergency presentation in birds and outcomes can be dramatically improved with the correct first aid and treatment. Dr Janelle Ward will run through an avian reproductive anatomy and physiology refresher in male and female birds, before working through the most common reproductive case presentations (e.g. egg binding, egg peritonitis, chronic egg laying). The workshop will be interactive with case studies to test your newfound knowledge!</p> <p>Benefits for the practice: Open up the potential for your vets to treat avian patients. Birds are increasingly popular as companion animals however, few veterinarians are skilled in avian medicine. This is an opportunity to up-skill your veterinarian on managing common reproductive presentations.</p>	<p>This workshop is open to vets and scientists with an interest in avian wildlife disease, and will appeal to those who would like to sharpen their scalpels and hone their skills in avian gross pathology. This is a practical based wet lab; necropsy and sampling equipment will be available and latex gloves and lab coats will be provided. A powerpoint display and discussion of common avian disease presentations, and exotic diseases to have on your radar, will be incorporated into this exciting workshop. This workshop filled up quickly at our previous Wanaka conference, and is limited to the first 16 attendees - so get in quick!</p> <p>The aim of the workshop is to improve the participants' proficiency in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Avian anatomy » Correct dissection of birds to determine gross pathology (each participant will have a cadaver to carry out a post mortem on). » The optimal techniques for taking fresh and fixed samples to cinch your diagnosis.

Orokonui Ecosanctuary

Orokonui Ecosanctuary is the flagship biodiversity project for the South Island where multiple species of plants and animals are protected from predators. A predator fence surrounds 307 hectares of Coastal Otago forest, pests have been removed, habitat enhanced with weed control and planting, and many rare and endangered species re-introduced.

	Orokonui Highlights-Guided Tour	Orokonui Self-Guided Tour
Venue	Orokonui Ecosanctuary	Orokonui Ecosanctuary
Time	1.30pm - 2.45pm	1.30-4.15pm
Transport	Bus - pick up (8.15am) and drop off (1.30pm & 4.30pm) to Otago Museum*	Bus - pick up (8.15am) and drop off (1.30pm & 4.30pm) to Otago Museum*
Description	You may see takahe, tuatara, Otago skinks, kaka, bellbirds and tui (seasonal and weather dependent), plus some iconic NZ trees. The tour finishes at a bird feeder among centuries old forest. From here you can choose to explore further or return to the Visitor Centre.	Choose from a number of tracks varying in length, landscape, flora and fauna.

*The bus will take approximately 30 minutes to return to Dunedin - allow plenty of time for your outgoing flight.



Field trips

Royal Albatross Tour

Time	1.30pm - 4.15pm
Transport	Bus - pick up and drop off to Otago Museum
Description	A 1.5 hour guided tour telling the story of the Northern Royal Albatross and the People history of Pukekura/ Taiaroa Head. From a small Maori camp in the 1300s to a fortified Pa where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840; from a wooden flagstaff to an 1864 lighthouse at the entrance to Otago Harbour; from a 1880s underground fort to a large defence base in WWII. Taiaroa Head is today a Nature Reserve and iconic wildlife attraction.

Monarch Wildlife Cruise and Penguin Place

Time	1.30pm - 7pm
Transport	Bus - pick up and drop off to Otago Museum
Description	<p>Start with a 90 minute guided tour of the Penguin Place Conservation Reserve. Found only on the South East Coast of New Zealand, this is a great chance of seeing Yellow-Eyed Penguins in the wild!</p> <p>Hear about the conservation and volunteer work in place ensuring the survival of this species (a portion of your ticket cost goes directly back into helping efforts continue on in to the future).</p> <p>Next you'll take a short bus ride over the farm to the reserve where your guide will lead you on foot through unique covered trenches into viewing hides. These allow close viewing and photography of the breeding behaviour and chicks of this shy penguin.</p> <p>Finally, you'll board a cruise ship around Taiaroa Head, the worlds only mainland nesting place of Royal Albatross. Watch NZ Furseals play and swim near their breeding colonies, and out at sea you can spot up to 20 species of rarely seen ocean birds including other albatross species and petrels. You may see penguins, dolphins and other marine mammals. Cruise back to the city along the Otago Harbour past Careys Bay - a historic fishing village, the busy working wharves of Port Chalmers and Otago Harbour's beautiful bays, hills and farmland.</p>