



News from Newquay Zoo

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 29 April 2025

PRESS RELEASE: PENGUIN COLONY GROWS WITH TWO NEW FLUFFY ARRIVALS AT NEWQUAY ZOO



Newquay Zoo is celebrating the arrival of two Humboldt penguin chicks, born in recent weeks to long-term pair Ebony and Patch and to first-time parents Oreo and Humbug. The eggs were laid in March and hatched just a few weeks ago, with keepers confirming that all parents and chicks are healthy and doing well during this critical early stage. The first chick was hatched by Ebony, Newquay Zoo's oldest penguin at 28 years old, and her long-time partner Patch, who she has been paired with for around 20 years. Together, they have successfully raised many chicks over the years and are even grandparents to some of the Zoo's current colony members. The second chick marks a significant milestone for younger penguins Oreo and Humbug, who are navigating parenthood for the very first time.



The news follows a fun-filled penguin ‘pool party’ held earlier this month to celebrate a wave of penguin birthdays at Newquay Zoo, where visitors enjoyed a special talk, behind-the-scenes insights, and crowd-pleasing enrichment activities, including bringing out the penguin’s favourite bubble-machine to stimulate playful behaviour.



Senior Keeper Dan Trevelyan, who has successfully reared many penguins during his time at Newquay Zoo, said:

“We’re thrilled to welcome two new chicks to the colony. Ebony and Patch are experienced and reliable parents who’ve successfully raised several offspring over the years, and it’s fantastic to see Oreo and Humbug stepping up as first-time parents. This is a critical period for the chicks, so while everything is going well, we’re monitoring them closely to ensure they stay healthy and strong.”

The Humboldt penguin (*Spheniscus humboldti*), native to the coastal regions of Peru and Chile, is currently listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN. Threatened by habitat loss, overfishing, and climate change, Humboldt penguins are part of coordinated breeding efforts across European zoos. Newquay Zoo has housed a thriving penguin colony since the zoo opened back in 1969 and remains committed to species conservation and education.



While the chicks remain safely tucked in their burrows next to the penguin pool, visitors might be lucky enough to catch a glimpse - or even hear a tiny chirp - on their next visit. With their playful personalities and engaging behaviours, the penguins continue to be a standout favourite for guests of all ages at Newquay Zoo.

Regular chick updates will be shared on Newquay Zoo's social media channels in the coming weeks, allowing the public to follow their development until they're ready to waddle into public view.

NOTES TO EDITOR

Media Resources

High-resolution images and video available upon request.

Visitor Information:

- Newquay Zoo admission pricing, including Gift Aid donation:
- Adults; £19.00
- Children (3-15 years); £14.25
- Children (2-3 years); £2.75
- Children under 1; Free
- Carer accompanying a paying guest; Free

- Group rates; Available from £9.75 per person
- Opening hours: Daily from 10am (closing times vary seasonally - current closing time 5.00pm, last admissions 4.00pm)
- Parking available in the Cornwall Council carpark adjacent to Newquay Zoo
- Full accessibility
- On-site refreshments and retail facilities

Visitors can book tickets in advance online. Each visit supports Wild Planet Trust's vital conservation work both in the UK and overseas. Gift Aid declarations on ticket purchases provide additional funding at no extra cost to visitors. To book tickets, or learn more about how you can support Newquay Zoo, please visit newquayzoo.org.uk

Newquay Zoo

Wild Planet Trust is a conservation charity encompassing Paignton Zoo, Newquay Zoo and three nature reserves - Slapton Ley National Nature Reserve, Primley Park and Clennon Gorge.

Newquay Zoo, established in 1969, is Cornwall's leading wildlife attraction, set within 13 acres of lush, landscaped grounds. The zoo attracts over 140,000 visitors annually and is home to more than 1,000 animals representing over 120 species from around the world. With a focus on conservation and education, Newquay Zoo is actively involved in breeding programmes for endangered species and plays a vital role in the protection of wildlife both locally and globally. The zoo also boasts a range of exciting animal encounters and experiences that allow visitors to learn about the vital work being done to safeguard endangered species.

The Trust leads vital conservation and research projects in the UK and internationally, focusing on animal behaviour, nutrition, enrichment and ecology. Our mission is to Help Halt Species Decline by protecting endangered species and preserving biodiversity for future generations.

Both Paignton and Newquay Zoos are accredited members of the British & Irish Association of Zoos & Aquariums (BIAZA), a prestigious network of over 100 leading zoos and aquariums committed to conservation, education and scientific research. Paignton Zoo is also a member of the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA), participating in vital European breeding programmes.

Registered charity numbers: Wild Planet Trust 306622, Paignton Zoo and Newquay Zoo 300923

Registered offices: Paignton Zoo, Totnes Road, Paignton, Devon, TQ4 7EU. Newquay Zoo, Trenance Gardens, Newquay, Cornwall, TR7 2NL.

All media visits must be pre-arranged with the Press Office. Photography and filming guidelines are available upon request.

For media enquiries or interview requests, please contact:

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Connect With Us

- Website: newquayzoo.org.uk

- Wild Planet Trust: wildplanettrust.org.uk
- Social Media: @NewquayZoo (Facebook, Instagram)
- @WildPlanetTrust (Twitter/X, YouTube, LinkedIn)

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