

## MAIRI HILTON



Dr Mairi Hilton has just joined our Oceanites team. She is a conservationist and wildlife biologist. After completing her PhD in conservation biology in 2022, she spent five months living at Port Lockroy, a historic British base on the Antarctic Peninsula, where she worked for the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT). Mairi was the wildlife monitor at Port Lockroy, and was responsible for overseeing the continuation of a 25-year study by the British Antarctic Survey monitoring the breeding success of gentoo penguins on the island.

Upon returning from Antarctica, Mairi continued to work for UKAHT. She helped to develop environmental management plans for their heritage sites across the Antarctic Peninsula, and provided recommendations for monitoring protocol for a range of Antarctic wildlife.

Originally from Scotland, Mairi currently lives in New Zealand, and works on several threatened species research projects. This includes a project working to reintroduce kiwi to the Wellington region, and developing guidelines for managing threatened species in Australia. She has previously taken part in wildlife research expeditions to the Peruvian Amazon and Trinidad and Tobago, worked as an ecologist in Scotland, and conducted fieldwork in the Australian Alps.

Outside of work, Mairi enjoys hiking and camping with her springer spaniel Maisie, and can often be found running the trails and hills around Wellington.