



12th IPC Program

Saturday 29 August 2026

(Pre-Conference Workshops, Registration required)

0800-1600	International penguin early career scientists (IPECS) 6th early career workshop Alex Thornton, Paula Wasiak, Ruth Peacey, Dr Jeff White	Venue to be confirmed
0800-1200	Trouble-shooting terrestrial predation at mainland African penguin colonies: Towards evidence-based mitigation Dr Lisa Nupen	Venue to be confirmed
1200-1230	Lunch (at delegates own expense)	
1230-1630	What works for banded penguins? Translating science into effective conservation for African and Humboldt penguins Dr Patty McGill	Venue to be confirmed

Sunday 30 August 2026

Pre-Conference Workshops, Registration Required

0800-1200	Improving methods for population estimates and identifying research priorities for rockhopper penguins Dr Jeff White	Venue to be confirmed
0900-1200	The science communication of penguins: A new approach Prof Lloyd Davis, Dr Wiebke Finkler	Venue to be confirmed
1200-1230	Lunch (at delegates own expense)	
1230-1500	Antarctic ParasiteNet: A global network on host-parasite interactions across Antarctica Dr Meagan Dewar	Venue to be confirmed
1230-1630	Signals before the storm: Detecting early-warning signals of regime shifts in penguin populations Dr Vincent A Viblanc	Venue to be confirmed

1100 & 1500 departures	Buses departing from Tullamarine, Melbourne International Airport. Delegates need to preregister for the buses via the registration portal.	Tullamarine International Airport
1400 – 1800	Registration Opens	Berninneit
1700-1900	The Icebreaker – Welcome Reception <i>Start the conference by joining colleagues at the traditional IPC Icebreaker. Enjoy a selection of regional wines and local canapés while catching up with peers, making new connections, and settling into the conference in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.</i>	Berninneit

12th IPC Program

Monday 31 August 2026

0800 – 1700	Registration opens	Berninneit
0900 – 1500	Exhibition opens	Community Rooms
0800 - 1650	Speakers Preparation Room Opens <i>Speakers are to upload their slides 2 hours prior to the presentation. This might mean the day before if necessary.</i>	
0810	Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony	Foyer of Berninneit
0900	Opening Remarks	Auditorium
0910	Keynote Presentation Prof Hugh Possingham <i>With thanks to</i> 	
0940	Gentoo penguin occupation and colonisation in relation to glacial retreat and sea ice decline near Palmer Station, west Antarctic Peninsula Dr Megan Cimino	
0955	Projected redistribution of Southern Ocean penguins under climate change Joshua Wilson	
1010	Tracking the invisible: Integrating autonomous prey monitoring and biologging to reveal climate impacts on penguins Dr Claire Saraux	
1025-1110	Morning tea	Community Rooms
1110	Precipitation as a novel threat for penguins. Increased catastrophic snowfall events break historic breeding success trends; breeding failures now frequent in all three Dr Ignacio Juarez Martinez	Auditorium
1125	Storm-driven turbidity and suppressed population growth in little penguins: evidence from Ōamaru, New Zealand. Dr Philippa Agnew	
1140	Predicting prey fields in little penguin foraging habitats using autonomous acoustic monitoring Eloise Baleynaud	

1155 - 1230	Presentations	With thanks to 
	Emperor penguin's fossil relatives inhabited subtropical waters Alan Tennyson The heat is on: Behavioural, physiological and reproductive evidence of heat stress in breeding king penguins Dr Vincent A. Viblanc Niche width impacts phenological match-mismatch of Adélie and gentoo penguins in a changing climate Dr Megan Cimino Changes in behaviour of royal penguins on Macquarie Island over a fifteen-year time frame – observations of an amateur “citizen scientist”. Dr Neisha Wratten Video evidence of pteropod predation highlights diet flexibility in Adélie penguins Dr Hina T. Watanabe	
1230-1345	Lunch & Exhibition Viewing	Community Rooms
1345	Do ecological niche models predict abundance? Insights from spatial structure, oceanography, and genetics in Antarctic penguins Eduardo J. Pizarro	Auditorium
1400	Two islands, different journeys: Pre-moult foraging of erect-crested penguins from the New Zealand Bounty and Antipodes Islands Bianca Keys	
1415	Foraging of southern rockhopper and royal penguins on Macquarie Island Jaslyn Allnutt	
1430	Stable individual spatial strategies and physiological plasticity in foraging chinstrap penguins Josabel Belliure	
1445	Emergence of a prey depletion halo through penguin–krill behavioural dynamics Dr Hina T. Watanabe	
1500-1530	Stretch break	

1530	Year-round movement of emperor penguin colonies observed from space Dr Grant Macdonald	Auditorium
1545	The End of the Empire? Discovery of Antarctic moulting sites in satellite imagery reveals new threat to emperor penguins Dr Peter Fretwell	
1600 - 1650	Lightning Presentations	
	Is past prologue: Might historical foraging plasticity buffer king penguins against future climate impacts? Angela Stahl Living with uncertainty: Using multi-model large ensembles to assess emperor penguin extinction risk for the IUCN Red List Alice Eparvier Parental stress and offspring performance: reproductive consequences of corticosterone in king penguins (<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>) Anais Cotton Philopatric behaviour and breeding dynamics of Humboldt penguins in Punta San Juan, Peru Arianna Basto Safe in the subs? Population counts indicate a decline in numbers of Hoiho at Motu Ihupuku Campbell Island Dr Melanie Young Using egg density to predict hatching dates in gentoo penguins Dr Yuna Kim Age related changes in foraging behaviour variability of Adélie penguins Linnet Jessell Pagophilic rather than sea-ice obligate: a review of Adélie penguin moult patterns Dr David Ainley	

With thanks to



1650-1800	Poster Session <i>The Poster Session offers a valuable opportunity to discover new research, exchange ideas, and connect with colleagues from across the profession. Featuring a broad range of poster presentations, the session encourages discussion with authors and provides insight into current projects, innovations, and emerging trends.</i> <i>Enjoy light refreshments as you explore the displays, engage in conversations with presenters, and expand your professional network in an informal and welcoming environment. Whether you're sharing your own work or learning from others, the Poster Session is an excellent way to gain fresh perspectives and make meaningful connections.</i>	Community Rooms With thanks to 
1800	End of Day 1 of Conference	

Tuesday 1 September 2026

0830	Registration Opens	Berninneit
0830-1730	Speakers Preparation Room <i>Speakers to upload their slides 2 hours prior to the presentation. This might mean the day before if necessary.</i>	
0900-1515	Exhibition Opens	Community Rooms
0900	Welcome & Summary of Day 1	Auditorium
0910	Keynote Presentation Dr Alistair Hobday <i>With thanks to</i> 	
0940	Divergent responses of rockhopper penguins to extreme oceanographic variability Dr Andrea Raya Rey	
0955	Cumulative effects of extreme events on little penguin foraging performance in a global warming hotspot Andrea Kaplan	
1010	Future winter habitat suitability of an ice-obligate Adélie penguin under different climate scenarios Dr Zuzana Zajková	
1025-1055	Morning Tea	Community Rooms
1055	Paradise Lost? Dramatic population changes in the world's largest penguin colony Dr Gemma Clucas	Auditorium
1110	Climate lags matter: SST anomalies drive stage-specific shifts in Humboldt penguin breeding Dr Susana Cárdenas-Alayza	
1125	When earlier phenology becomes beneficial: Increasing double brooding in a long-lived seabird Alice Eparvier	
1140	Where penguins waddle, do oceans warm? A multi-dataset assessment of emperor and Adélie colony exposure to marine heatwaves and sea-ice change Raven Quilestino-Olario	

1155 - 1230	Lightning Presentations	With thanks to 
	Surviving the heat: Increasing Ocean temperatures and shifting breeding patterns of little penguins until the end of the century Andrea Kaplan Little penguins move to coastal refuges to rest overnight under strong sea conditions Yan Ropert-Coudert A Coastal Canary? Little penguins signal climate strain on temperate Australia Dr Sandra Vardeh The effects of environmental variation on the survival and reproductive ecology of little penguins in an urbanised colony Meagan Tucker Climate variability shapes mercury exposure in little penguins: insights from a 15-year time series at a global warming hotspot Margot Arabadjieva Spatial variation in body condition of a coastal sentinel, the little penguin, reflects marine and terrestrial factors Dr Melanie Wells	
1230-1330	Lunch	Community Rooms
1330	HPAI assessments in penguin populations at Heard Island and McDonald Islands Dr Alistair McInnes	Auditorium
1345	Health and infectious disease surveillance of rockhopper and gentoo penguins in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) from 2018 to 2024. Dr Ann Duncan	
1400	Passive disease surveillance of little penguins at Phillip Island (Milawul) – an overview of the first two years of findings Dr Jasmin Hufschmid	
1415	Rising parasite pressure in Antarctic penguins: increasing tick infestation across <i>Pygoscelis</i> colonies Dr Katarzyna Tołkacz	
1430	Diet–microbiome shifts and disease resilience in endangered hoiho, yellow-eyed penguins Dr Eiren Sweetman	

1445	Bridging the gap: Leveraging ex situ expertise for in situ penguin conservation Karen Waterfall	
1500-1515	Stretch Break	
1515	Population genomics of yellow-eyed penguins uncovers subspecies divergence and candidate genes linked to respiratory distress syndrome Dr Janelle Wierenga	Auditorium
1530	The new world of microplastics: A field fraught with issues of contamination and accuracy of the results that we present to the scientific community Dr Brian Walker	
1545	A novel, localised cellulitis syndrome in African penguins during catastrophic moult Albert Snyman	
1600-1650	Lightning presentations	
	Linking El Niño-driven ocean warming and anchovy availability on Humboldt penguins breeding phenology in Punta San Juan, Peru Fabrizio Moy Island habitats and knowledge gaps: Conservation priorities for little penguins in Lutruwita/Tasmania Dr Melanie Wells Handled with care - stress response development, survival, and recruitment of kororā Shelley Ogle Feather CORT: a novel, minimally invasive monitoring technique for chronic stress levels in New Zealand Kororā Olivia Ediriweera Linking post-moult physiology to migration in chinstrap penguins from Deception Island Josabel Belliure Moulting dynamics in the African penguin: Morphological and behavioural characterisation Dr Valentina Isaja Modelling oil spill risk to African penguins in Algoa Bay, South Africa (from ship-to-ship bunkering) Dr Katrin Ludynia	

With thanks to



	Species-specific immune signatures in Antarctic penguins under environmental change Meagan Dewar	
1650 - 1710	Stretch Break	
1710 - 1800	Lightning Presentations	Auditorium
	Babesia spp. infection in wild and rehabilitating little penguins: Evidence for immune adaptation across life history stages Dr Rachel Chang Effects of Aspergillosis on vocal behaviour and call structure in Humboldt penguins Victor Scheire Little blue penguin gut microbiome: A 2026 case study in disease and development Kayla Strate Environmental and health associations with parasite presence on a coastal sentinel, the little penguin Dr Melanie Wells Novel Candidiasis granuloma in a little penguin Dr Adrienne Lavinia Health assessments and pathogen surveillance: How building health data aids in conservation decision making Dr Matt Allender From managed care to wild populations: The role of The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore in African penguin conservation Jess Phillips A day as a penguin: Welfare monitoring of three zoo-housed colonies of African penguins through ethological observations and analysis of keepers' perceptions Francesca Bandoli Beyond euthanasia: Biosecurity and survival during an HPAI outbreak Albert Snyman	With thanks to 
1800	End of Day 2 of Conference	

Wednesday 2 September 2026

0830	Registration Opens	Berninneit
0830-1700	Speakers Preparation Room <i>Speakers are to upload their slides 2 hours prior to the presentation. This might mean the day before if necessary.</i>	
0900-1510	Exhibition Opens	Community Rooms
0900	Welcome and Summary of Day 2	Auditorium
0910	Keynote Presentation Dr Stephanie Jenouvrier <i>With thanks to</i>   	
0940	How food availability shapes penguin foraging success Dr Claire Saraux	
0955	Updated population estimates for the endangered northern rockhopper penguin at Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic Dr Antje Steinfurth	
1010	Schrödinger's penguin? Divergent population trajectories and the challenge of assessing the threat status of the Erect-crested penguin Dave Houston	
1025-1055	Morning Tea	
1055	Declining Humboldt penguins in Chile: Trends, possible causes and future perspectives Dr Alejandro Simeone	Auditorium
1110	Do Humboldt penguins forage differently across colonies? A multi-site tracking study Dr Carlos Zavalaga	
1125	Status of little penguins in New South Wales, Australia Dr Lisa O'Neill	
1140	Comparison of fine-scale breeding and moult data to reveal population change in Humboldt penguins in Peru Dr Patty McGill	
1155	A penguin epigenetic clock and its application to demography Dr Robin Cristofari	

1210	Re-establishment of an African penguin colony: Refining strategies for bolstering recruitment potential Christina Hagen	
1225-1330	Lunch & Exhibition Viewing	Community Rooms
1330 - 1410	Keynote Presentation Dr Akiko Kato <i>With thanks to</i> 	Auditorium
1410	Hydrodynamic optimisation of penguin bio-logging devices Dr Janine Schoombie	
1425	Investigating carry-over effects in Pygoscelid penguins using long-term time-lapse camera monitoring Marie Rusch	
1440	A prototype automated population counter for Magellanic penguins using thermal drone imagery and machine learning Dr Brett Buzzanga	
1455	Validating automated penguin monitoring systems as indicators of African penguin foraging success and prey availability Eleanor Weideman	
1455 -1510	Stretch Break	
1510	Habitat use by high-latitude penguins: A comparison of biologging and at-sea surveys Dr Tammy Russell	Auditorium
1525	AI comes of age to integrate timelapse monitoring with population counts Prof Tom Hart	
1540	Drone–AI approaches for monitoring remote penguin colonies at Heard Island and McDonald Islands Dr Jarrod Hodgson	
1540 -1655	Lightning Presentations	
	Estimating ‘hot-spots’ of little penguin predation by long-nosed fur seals – it’s complicated Dr Rebecca McIntosh From fluff to fledgling: chick growth and survival in a dynamic world Sylvie Evans	<i>With thanks to</i> 

	Sex-specific variation in pre-moult foraging movements of Magellanic penguins Chloe Rabinowitz Linking personality to foraging behaviour in chinstrap penguins: a bio-logging approach Josabel Belliure Using biologging data to unravel cognitive processes in foraging king penguins: Within-trip experience-based decision and across-trip memory. Dr Camille Lemonnier Mixed breeding and interspecific pairing in crested penguins: towards a global compilation of anomalous reproductive events across colonies Josabel Belliure Spatial segregation in habitat use by breeding macaroni penguins from a colony in Kerguelen islands is linked to differences in energy requirements and prey depletion halo. Dr Camille Lemonnier Re-assessment of long-term survival and breeding success of African penguins oiled in the MV treasure oil spill in 2000 Prof Peter Barham Performance of deep learning models to estimate foraging effort in Antarctic Pygoscelis penguins Dr Stefan Schoombie Sentinels of change: understanding resilience of Antarctic seabirds to global warming using ancient environmental DNA Dr Theresa Cole From Research to Practice: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Penguin Conservation through Genetic Resource Banking Paweł Borecki Genome architecture and structural variation reveal the evolutionary history of Southern Ocean gentoo penguins Dr Juliana A. Vianna Phylogenetic niche conservatism shapes climate vulnerability in Southern Hemisphere seabirds Amanda Santos	
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1655 - 1800	Poster Session <i>The Poster Session offers an interactive opportunity to discover new research, connect with colleagues, and engage in conversations about the latest developments in the field. Featuring a broad range of poster presentations, the session provides a welcoming environment to discuss ideas directly with presenters and explore innovative work from across the profession.</i> <i>Enjoy light refreshments as you browse the displays, exchange insights with fellow delegates, and expand your professional network. Whether you're sharing your own research or exploring the work of others, the Poster Session is an excellent opportunity to learn, collaborate, and be inspired.</i>	Community Rooms With thanks to 
1800	End of Day 3 of Conference	
1900 - 2100	Documentary Premiere Winners & Losers among little penguins by Aurélien Prudor, acclaimed French documentary maker	Auditorium

Thursday 3 September 2026

0830	Registration Opens	Berninneit
0830-1530	Speakers Preparation Room Opens <i>Speakers are to upload their slides 2 hours prior to the presentation. This might mean the day before if necessary.</i>	
0900-1515	Exhibition Opens	Community Rooms
0900	Welcome and Summary of Day 3	Auditorium
0910	Keynote Presentation Prof Beth Fulton <i>With thanks to</i> 	
0940	Penguins, prey and policy: evaluating new fisheries closures for the Critically Endangered African Penguin Dr Alistair McInnes	
0955	Fishery-induced changes in prey schooling reduce foraging efficiency and energy balance in African penguins Dr Jacqui Glencross	
1010	Living with the enemy: Humboldt penguins appear to defy fisheries and coastal development in central Chile Dr Ursula Ellenberg	
1025-1055	Morning Tea	Community Rooms
1055	Bycatch of Humboldt Penguin near breeding colonies: Integration of onboard observations and testing of co-designed mitigation measures in artisanal gillnet fisheries Verónica López-Latorre	Auditorium
1110	Magellanic penguin foraging efficiency during chick provisioning declines with increased commercial fishing hours Dr Katie Holt	
1125	Foraging among the fleet: Biological and environmental drivers of habitat selection and foraging performance of Magellanic penguins in fished seascapes Meredith Honig	
1140	Epistemic opacity in Antarctic science: Unknowing the last frontier Dr Virginia Morandini	

1155 – 1230	Lightning presentations	With thanks to 
	Evaluating Ross Sea mesopredator habitat use in response to Marine Protected Area implementation and shifting environmental and sea-ice regimes Dr Rachel Hickcox A fragile encounter: The paradox of touring emperor penguin colonies in a changing Antarctica Ally Kristan What drives penguin recovery? Insights from IUCN Green Status of Species and life-history and threat-based analyses. Ella Wallis Penguin conservation requires an evolutionary perspective Dr Josabel Belliure Fishing tips from expert divers: Ascending foraging strategy in wild Adélie penguins Miki Nara Linking ocean foraging to life on land: Carry-over effects on Southern Rockhopper penguins phenology across a decade Dr Samanta Dodino	
1230-1330	Lunch & Exhibition Viewing	Community Rooms
1330	Catastrophic decline in a super colony of little penguins Dr Duncan Sutherland	Auditorium
1345	Survival of little penguin adults and chicks is influenced by marine temperatures and rainfall Dr Belinda Cannell	
1400	Beyond individual personality traits: Behavioural syndrome in little penguins A/Prof Diane Colombelli-Négrel	
1415	Effects of sibling rank and sex on CORT and growth in two-chick broods of little penguins Justine Wintz	
1430	Constructing gentoo penguin food webs for ecosystem monitoring: seasonal shifts in diet and network structure at Macquarie Island Georgia Byrne	

1445	The heat is on: Short-term natural heat exposure leads to physiological alterations in breeding king penguins Léo Marcouillier	
1500-1515	Stretch Break	
1515	Antarctic site inventory: 32 years of counting penguins in Antarctica Kate Robb	
1530	African Penguin mutual display song playback encourages breeding behaviour: Implications for conservation Renske Kerkhofs	
1545	Unusual breeding strategies by African penguins on Robben Island Prof Peter Barham	
1600	End of Day of Conference	
1630	Coach pickup for delegates who have registered for the Penguin Parade and the Dinner	Coach bay, Berninneit
1800-1900	Penguin Parade & Water Ceremony	
1930-2130	Conference Dinner (Registration required) <i>Experience one of the most iconic penguin attractions before joining fellow delegates for the Conference Dinner. Begin the evening by watching the world-famous Penguin Parade, then continue the experience over a relaxed dinner with colleagues.</i> <i>The evening offers the perfect opportunity to unwind, share ideas, strengthen professional connections, and enjoy great food in a cosy setting. It's a memorable way to celebrate the conference.</i>	Little Chicks Café, Penguin Parade

Friday 4 September

0830	Registration Opens	Berninneit
0830-1530	Speakers Preparation Room Opens <i>Speakers are to upload their slides 2 hours prior to the presentation. This might mean the day before if necessary.</i>	
0900-1330	Exhibition Opens	Community Rooms
0900	Welcome and Summary of Day 4	Auditorium
0910	Keynote Presentation Dr Thomas Mattern With thanks to  	
0940	Determinants and consequences of pair bond disruption in little penguins Dr Vincent A. Viblanc	
0955	Quantifying social bonds and coordinated foraging in African Penguins Jody McComb	
1010	Long-term stability of Tawaki pre-moult foraging revealed through stable isotope analysis Dr Jeff White	
1025-1055	Morning Tea	Community Rooms
1055	A winter's tail: Feather amino acid isotopes identify contrasting seasonal trophic niches in two Antarctic penguins with differing migration strategies Dr Michael Polito	Auditorium
1110	Sedimentary ancient DNA reveals long-term ecological dynamics of Adélie penguins in the Ross Sea, Antarctica Dr Theresa Cole	
1125	Tracking river contributions to little penguin diets using sulfur stable isotopes Julia Braga Morais	
1140	Spatiotemporal variation of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ isotope values in ancient and modern Adélie penguin bone collagen from the Ross Sea, Antarctica Valerie Muñoz	

1155 - 1230	Lightning presentations	<i>With thanks to</i> 
	Automatic acoustic identification of individual penguins as the basis of population monitoring Prof Bernd Meyer Event cameras, a novel tool for studying behaviour. Pilot study monitoring ecstatic displays on wild penguins Dr Ignacio Juarez Martinez How much monitoring is enough? Estimating the minimum sampling effort required to detect population change in little penguins Dr Maria Schreider Mitigating transponder tag migration risk in Hoiho – testing a new technique Melanie Young Unique underwing plumage patterns allow individual identification of 350 king penguins at the Bahia Inútil colony, Tierra del Fuego, Chile, and most are visiting subadults Dr Charles Munn Local predation impacts on African based on rehabilitation and mortality records at SANCCOB (2017–2025) Albert Snyman	
1230-1330	Lunch & Exhibition	Community Rooms
1330	Sex-specific migratory behaviours lead to increased risk exposure for female Magellanic penguins Dr Eric Wagner	Auditorium
1345	A multi-use non-invasive faecal sampling approach for hormone, microbiome, and genetic sex monitoring in African penguins Dr Susan Smith	
1400	Variation in body temperature and heart rate of incubating Adélie penguins in response to microclimatic conditions Dr Ayaka Saito	
1415	An integrated database for Tasmanian little penguins Dr Perviz Marker	

1430	Seabirds to seascapes: Integrating multi-disciplinary research to inform management of little penguins in New South Wales Kate Akkerman	
1445	Evidence of olfaction and olfactory communication in Humboldt penguins Alex Wilder	
1500-1515	Stretch Break	
1515	Vocal communication in the African penguin: acoustic cues to identity, size, and health in a critically endangered species Prof Livio Favaro	Auditorium
1530	Saving starving seabirds: The development of a sex-specific body condition index (BCI) for African penguins to understand if spatial and temporal patterns of emaciation are linked to food availability Dr Lisa Nupen	
1530 - 1600	Closing Ceremony and Awards <i>With thanks to our Session Sponsors</i>    	
1630	Coaches departing to Melbourne, Tullamarine Airport (Preregistration required)	Coach bay, Berninneit
Saturday 5 September		
0900	Coaches departing to Melbourne, Tullamarine Airport (Preregistration required)	Coach bay, Berninneit

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