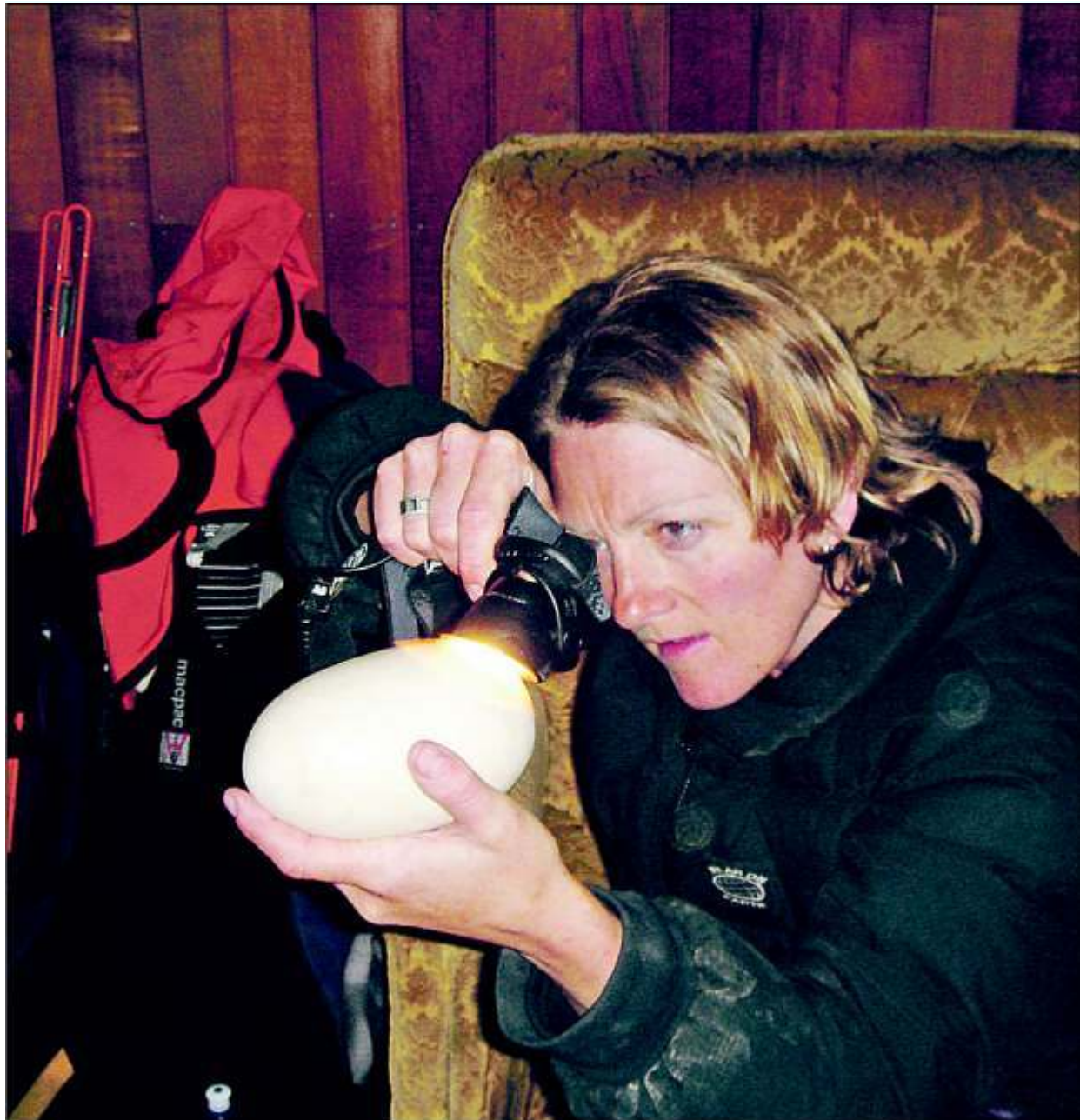


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**SHELL INSPECTION:** Volunteer Tamsin Ward-Smith candling (checking with light) a kiwi egg from Maungataniwha Forest to check on its development.

## Trust's bird release down to fine art

The Forest Lifeforce Restoration Trust (FLR) is fast carving out a name for itself as one of the most prolific and successful kiwi conservation initiatives in the country.

Established in 2006, it delivered 39 viable eggs to the Kiwi Encounter hatchery this season —

and has so far lifted 132 chicks in total.

Its 100th kiwi reared as part of the programme, a male named Takamoana, was released at Maungataniwha earlier this year by its patron Rachel Hunter.

"Normally we'd expect the rearing and release of this many

kiwi to take twice as long," former BNZ Save the Kiwi Trust executive director Michelle Impey said.

"The FLR Trust team have got it down to a fine art and it's wonderful that some of the chicks released three or four years ago are now breeding themselves, further adding to the population."