

LOWER SILVERMINE RIVER ESTUARY



100+ year old dykes made to control the river when the

bridge was built. Made from old drums of cement and pieces of metal from the Kakapo wreck at Noordhoek.



Common Kelp gull. A scavenger. The juveniles are mottled brown.



Black Oystercatchers. An endangered bird that feeds off mussels on the rocks



Paper Nautilus. It is related to the octopus. Only the female produces a shell, which is very fragile.



Sea pumpkin. A common dune plant. The leaves are hairy to reduce desiccation of the plant.



Sea Swallow (*glaucus atlanticus*) Floats upside down in the ocean and feeds on bluebottles. Found after onshore winds.



Mermaids purse. The egg case of the shy shark and is usually found in washed up seaweed

where the mother ties it until the baby hatches about 9 months after laying the egg.



Raft Hydroid. It is related to the bluebottle but has no effect on humans. It feeds on plankton.



Cape Clawless Otter. The foot prints can sometimes be seen near the river early in the morning. They breed up the river.

They are not often seen on the beach because of dogs and people.



Mongoose spoor differs from an otters as it has claw marks.



Common Cuttlefish bone. The main bone of the cuttlefish and enables the fish to vary its depth by pumping a gas into the porous bone.



Plough Shell. It is blind and relies on smell to find carrion, on which a group will feed. Their tracks are often seen on the sand as the tide goes out.