

### Forthcoming Trips:

#### **Meola Reef Walkabout Sunday 12 February 2:00pm**

Experience the habitat of ancient lava that flowed from a volcano into the Waitemata Harbour over 20,000 years ago. At low tide we can walk on part of this basalt reef which stretches across the water towards Birkenhead. Things to study will be rock formations, rock pools, mangrove swamps and seabirds. Bring your binoculars, passports and sturdy shoes for an afternoon of detective work on this fascinating reef. Please book with Ann Brabant [anabrab@ihug.co.nz](mailto:anabrab@ihug.co.nz), ph 4191048.



#### **Seaweek on Rotoroa Island** **Sunday 5 March**



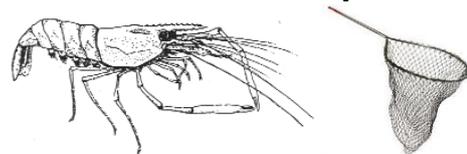
Take this opportunity to explore this unique heritage and conservation island, the Hauraki Gulf's newest wildlife sanctuary. As volunteer families we will, on arrival assist Trust members in activities to restore Rotoroa Is natural heritage. In the afternoon we will be able to learn about remnants of the rich social history, join activities, relax on the gorgeous beaches or explore. The 75 min ferry ride departs Downtown at 8:45am and leaves Rotoroa at 5:15pm. As volunteers we qualify for discounted fares; Adult \$31.20, Child \$18. **More info: Marilyn: [cmgulliver@clear.net.nz](mailto:cmgulliver@clear.net.nz) or phone 4785562**

#### **Explore Bush and Estuary** **on the Okura Walkway** **Saturday 26 March, 11a.m**



We will meet at the carpark on Haigh's Access Rd and follow this undulating walking track through regenerating coastal forest with groves of nikau, kauri and pohutukawa. When it drops down to the Okura River estuary we will look for wading birds on the mudflats. Liliane Parkinson will introduce her children's book about the birds of the Okura River. **Book with Sharon 483 9762 or [sharon.mcgaffin@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sharon.mcgaffin@xtra.co.nz)**

#### **Water Bugs and Beasties** **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 10.00 am** **Centennial Park, Campbells Bay**



#### **Freshwater investigation.**

What can we find in our urban streams? Are they healthy? A Freshwater Ecologist will help us identify what we find and test the water. If you are interested in this contact Christine 0210558151 [chrisalice51@gmail.com](mailto:chrisalice51@gmail.com) and she can confirm details.

**IMPORTANT:** Book Early for all trips to avoid disappointment, as we sometimes have to limit numbers.

**A responsible adult** must accompany children at events as we are not responsible for the welfare of individual children.

**Families booked on trips will be contacted with specific instructions before the day.**

## Recent Trips:

### Behind the Scenes at the Museum July 2016

15 North shore KCC children were treated to a special education hour with Matt Rayner who is Curator of the Land Vertebrate Department of Auckland Museum. This was a time to learn about many of the museum's treasures which included bird feathers, a wandering Albatross skeleton, mammal bones and dinosaur fossils. Here is Miuwai Lee with the leg bone of a moa (Tibia tarsus). This bone was donated to the museum but as there was no details or location known, it has not been used for research.

**Coordinator Ann Brabant**



### Saturday 20 August

Fifty children and adults spent the night visiting sea creatures and being educated about Antarctica; the conditions and the expeditions. Sharks, Penguins, Seahorses, Stingrays were just some of the amazing things to view through the glass. We slept beside the fish tanks or inside the shark tunnels. After breakfast we learnt about the extraordinary life of Kelly Tarlton who had the vision and drive to create this wonderful Auckland Sea Life venue. It was an experience not to be missed. **Coordinator Ann Brabant**



The rain did not deter the 14 children with their parents from exploring Smith's Bush and searching for answers to the scavenger hunt for particular trees, leaves and features. The children had great fun checking off the various items from their list as they found them and features were discussed and commented on.

**Coordinator Christine Thomson**

### Protect Our Birds, September



At Fernglen Reserve, David Roberts, demonstrated a selection of bait stations and traps that are used to control the pests that prey on our native birds. Following David's talk, the children followed clues looking for Trakka tunnels on a Trakka Trail through Fernglen, and identified mouse tracks in one of them.

**Coordinator: Sharon McGaffin**

### New Co-ordinator



**Sharon McGaffin** is a new KCC Co-ordinator on the North Shore joining Marilyn, Ann and Christine to organise exciting events for our KCC members. She loves native birds and has been a Forest & Bird member since she was a child – there was no KCC then! She has been a primary school teacher for many years. Her favourite birds are owls, including our New Zealand owl, the morepork.