



FOREST  
& BIRD

Restoring the Dawn Chorus in the Auckland Region

# Auckland Naturally

## Programme

April-June 2008

### CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

*Friday 5 & Saturday 6 April (North Shore):* Smiths Bush Bioblitz, 3pm Friday to 3pm Saturday.

*Sunday 6 April (KCC Central Auckland) Bird rescue:* An opportunity to visit Sylvia Durrant's bird rescue facility on the North Shore. Limited to 20 children so book early to reserve a place. Meet 10:30am outside 1/13 Montgomery Ave, Rothesay Bay. If you would like to help Sylvia in her wonderful work of caring for injured and orphaned birds a donation of some old towels or money would be much appreciated. Book with Marianne at [Marianne@value.net.nz](mailto:Marianne@value.net.nz) or phone 360 2245.

*Sunday 6 April (Kaipara):* Atiu Creek Farm Park visit. This is a beautiful property on the Kaipara's Tapora Peninsula which has been gifted to the ARC by the Chatelanats. For booking and meeting information, email Suzi on [suzi@dialogue.co.nz](mailto:suzi@dialogue.co.nz) or phone Chris on 09 833 6363.

*Friday 11 April (Franklin):* Look at the stars and planets. Take part in learning about space by attending (KCC and families) the Astronomy Club night. 7:30pm at Pukekohe East church. For more information, contact Keith on 09 238 9928.

*Sunday 13 April (South Auckland):* Nature and Historic Walk around Royal Oak, Three Kings Mont Cecilia with Phil Sai Louie. Meet 10am at corner of Hillborough Rd and Marie Ave for 3 hour walk. Bring lunch. Cancellations phone Hannah on 576 4191 or Barbara on 534 8917.

*Saturday 19 April (Central Auckland):* Firth Tower, Matamata. Join us as we visit this and other interesting aspects of the area. Cost: \$35 (includes entry fee). Book with Karen on 528 7506.

*Sunday 20 April (Waitakere):* Walk on Mount Atuanui (Mt Auckland) in the Kaipara where F&B and DoC are working on creating a mainland island. The guide will be Christine Silvester. Meet 11am at the Kaipara Hills Rd carpark. Book with Glenys on 832 6238 (she will be out of town until 11 April but you can leave a message).

*Sunday 20 April (KCC North Shore):* Scandrett Regional Park. Explore a new regional park in the Mahurangi Harbour (70 mins from the North Shore). From Warkworth follow the signs to Snells Beach and continue to Algies Bay. Turn left off Mahurangi East Rd onto Martins Bay Rd and follow the Scandrett Rd to the end. Bring picnic lunch (gas BBQs permitted). This is a great spot to spend the day. Book with Muriel on 486 4884 or Christine on 410 7789.

*Saturday 26 April (Hibiscus Coast):* Kayak trip up the Kaukapakapa River. Launching from Mt Rex near Helensville around 1pm. Bring your own kayak or hire one there. In either case, book with Philip on 09 427 8996 to confirm kayak availability and costs.

*Sunday 27 April (Franklin):* Shipherd's Reserve visit. Local Franklin Reserve often driven past but seldom visited. Take time to walk through the reserve and enjoy part of the local heritage. Meet 1:30pm at the reserve in Aka Aka Rd. Enquiries to Keith on 09 238 9928.

*Saturday 10 May (Central Auckland):* Hunua Falls walk. From the Falls car park, view the falls and then walk the Massey Track until reaching the Wairoa-Cossey's Track. Then down to the dam to the Cossey's Gorge walk, Enquiries and bookings with John on 638 5373.

*Sunday 18 May* (Hibiscus Coast): a walk in Mahurangi West Regional Park to see the results of 10 years of tree planting at Mita Bay and then a crossing of the Te Muri Estuary at low tide to visit three significant pa sites. Led by Peter Pearce, archaeologist. Carpool 9:15am at Arundel Reserve or meet around 9:45am at the Sullivan's Bay car park. Bring your lunch. \$3 trip fee. Contact Peter on 09 424 7697.

*Sunday 18 May* (Franklin): Field trip and tramp Hunua Signal Station circuit. Meet 1pm at entrance to Wairoa Dam road and return within 2-3 hours. Good views of the inner Hunuas. Fairly easy walking. Enquiries contact Keith on 09 2389928.

*Saturday 24 May* (Waitakere): Walk and picnic at Matuku Reserve off Jonkers Rd. Meet 10:30am at reserve carpark at the end of Snows Lane, which is about 1km along Jonkers Rd which runs off Wairere Rd from Waitakere township. Book with Glenys on 832 6238.

*Sunday 25 May* (KCC North Shore): Rangitoto (blood red sky). Come for the day to Rangitoto Island, largest and youngest (about 600 years old) of Auckland's 48 volcanoes. Explore the lava caves (bring a torch), walk to the summit (1 hour). Fullers Ferry leaves Devonport 9:15am. Departs Rangitoto 3:30pm. Meet 9am by the ticket office on the wharf. Bring food, drink, good walking shoes and sun protection. Bookings essential with Christine on 410 7789, cball@xtra.co.nz or Brian on 443 2479 (0274 796 147) [brian.gannon@acsim.co.nz](mailto:brian.gannon@acsim.co.nz).

*Monday 2 June* (North Shore): Queens Birthday visit to Torbay Heights, which is one of three small reserves between the upper Glamorgan Drive area and the top of Glenvar Rd. There are some remarkable botanical features to be observed. Meet by 9:30am at corner of Helen Ryburn Place and Kate Sheppard Ave (off Glamorgan Dr). To book, and for more info, contact Margi Keys on 443 6919 or 0274 481 581.

*Sunday 8 June* (KCC North Shore): The Tree Planting – Tuff Crater. Forest & Bird and KCC tree planting day, 10am to midday. Bring spade, friends and neighbours! Follow signs at the end of Warehouse Way, off Akoranga Drive. Ring Jocelyn on 479 2107 or Brian on 443 2479 (0274 796 147) to confirm details.

*Sunday 22 June* (Waitakere): Day visit to Tiritiri Matangi Island. Boat departs Downtown at 9am and from Gulf Harbour about 10am. Book directly with the Kawau Cat on 0800 888 006. Please let them know you are part of the Waitakere F&B group. Please also phone Glenys (on 832 6238) to let her know you are booked.

## **CONSERVATION TALKS**

*Monday 7 April* (South Auckland) Geothermal exchange pumps: an innovative system for energy conservation with speaker Anthony Bellve. 7:30pm at the Methodist Church Lounge, cnr Alfriston and Great South Roads, Manurewa.

*Monday 7 April* (North Shore) 'Rare Plants of Auckland' by Rebecca Stanley (ARC Natural Heritage Ecologist). Bec will talk about some of the 300 rare (threatened native) plants with particular reference to some North Shore species. Auckland region has lost at least 30 plants since records were kept. Come and find out why our plants become so rare... 7:45pm, Takapuna Senior Citizens' Hall (behind library), the Strand, Takapuna.

*Thursday 17 April* (Waitakere) 'Chatham Island natural history' Mark Bellingham of F&B's Northern Conservation Office will give an illustrated talk at 8pm. This will follow the AGM of the Branch which will be held at 7pm in the Kelston Community Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston.

*Thursday 24 April* (Hibiscus Coast) AGM of the HC Branch, to be followed by member Derek Lamb sharing his photographs and experiences from his birdwatching expedition to Pantanal and the Amazon in Brazil. 7:30pm, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, 105 Centreway Rd (opposite dairy), Orewa. \$3 door charge.

*Monday 5 May* (North Shore) 'Regional Biosecurity Strategy 2007-2012' by Jack Crow (ARC Group Manager, Biosecurity). Come along and find out about potential new threats to our biosecurity and the continual challenge in addressing them. 7:45pm, Takapuna Senior Citizens' Hall (behind library), the Strand, Takapuna.

*Thursday 15 May* (Waitakere) 'The Climate Project – raising the profile of the Global Warming issue'. Alan Emmerson of F&B's North Shore Branch will speak about the science of global warming, how it is affecting Earth and what we can do about it. 7:30pm at the Kelston Community Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston.

*Sunday 18 May* (Central Auckland) 'Wildlife of Borneo' with Simon Fordham, keen photographer, who will give an insight into the wonderful diversity and colour of wildlife in Borneo. Definitely a talk not to be missed! 2.30pm, upstairs in the Hobson Room, Parnell Community Centre, 545 Parnell Rd.

*Thursday 22 May* (Hibiscus Coast) Ewen Cameron, botanist at the Auckland Museum, will report on a survey of the botany of Tiritiri Matangi undertaken in 2007, the first since the restoration of the island as an ecological sanctuary. 7:30pm, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, 105 Centreway Rd (opposite dairy), Orewa. \$3 door charge.

*Thursday 19 June* (Waitakere) 'Motu Kaikoura – an introduction to its flora and fauna, and a vision for its future' Tim Martin, ecologist and Kaikoura Island trustee, will introduce this newly acquired island and discuss plans for its conservation. 7:30pm at the Kelston Community Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston.

## CONCERT

*Friday 27 June* (Waitakere) 'Concert for the Birds' a musical variety concert at the Playhouse Theatre, Glen Eden, to help return rare birds to the Waitakeres. Time: 7:30 pm at the theatre.

## ONGOING RESTORATION PROJECTS

**Ark in the Park** – a partnership project between F&B Waitakere Branch and the ARC. Volunteer days are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. For details, contact John on 818 5267 or Karen on 837 0443.

**Atuanui Restoration Project**, Kaipara. Volunteers required to help with pest control, monitoring, and establishing bait-lines on most weekends. For details, contact Suzi on [suzi@dialogue.co.nz](mailto:suzi@dialogue.co.nz) or phone 021 271 2527.

**Centennial Park Restoration Project**, Campbells Bay, North Shore. Contact Richard on 410 5339 for working bee times, or go to [www.manawa.org.nz](http://www.manawa.org.nz)

**Kaipatiki Ecological Restoration Project** programme of activities may be found at [www.kaipatiki.org.nz](http://www.kaipatiki.org.nz) or call 482 1172.

**Onetangi Reserve**, Waiheke Island, working bee second Sunday of each month. Contact Brian on 372 7662.

**Motuihe Island Re-vegetation Project** planting day trips 2nd and 4th weekends of each month from Downtown ferry. Saturday 9am & Sunday 9:15 returning 3:30pm. Nursery and other activities. Please book for groups. Details [www.motuihe.org.nz](http://www.motuihe.org.nz) or [info@motuihe.org.nz](mailto:info@motuihe.org.nz) or John on 0800 668844.

**Motutapu Island, *Breathing life into an ancient landform*** Ecological restoration for *all New Zealanders* on regular volunteer days – planting from May to August, nursery work and weed busting from September to April. Volunteer and registration details available at [www.motutapu.org.nz](http://www.motutapu.org.nz)

**Raroa Restoration Project**, 53 Stanmore Bay Rd, Whangaparaoa, volunteer work days on Saturdays 1 March, 5 April & 3 May. For details, contact Peter on 09 424 7697.

**Te Atawhai Whenua Reserve**, Waiheke Island, working bee on the last Saturday of each month. Contact Lincoln on 372 3102.

**The Tuff Crater Millennium Forest Project**, North Shore, weeding group. For details, contact Anne on 480 5570.

**Three Streams** in Albany. Working bees are held on the second Saturday morning of each month.

**Twin Streams Project**, Waitakere City. For details, contact WCC on 836 8000.

**Wenderholm Regional Park** plant nursery volunteers, 9:30am – noon, Wednesdays 12 March, 9 April & 14 May. Meet at the Park Ranger's office. For details, contact Rita on 09 424 5056.

**Waiheke Island Wetlands Initiative (WIWI)** meetings are on the third Monday of every month at 8pm at a different person's place each time. All welcome. Phone Jan on 372 8992 for details.