



## MEETINGS – FEBRUARY 2011 – MAY 2011

Meetings are held in the Parnell Community Centre, 545 Parnell Road (Jubilee Building) on Sunday afternoons in the Hobson Room at 2.30 pm. Plenty of parking is behind the Centre. A donation of a gold coin to help defray hall costs would be appreciated.

### McKENZIE COUNTRY - SOUTH ISLAND – David Relph Sunday, 20 March 2011

David Relph is a long time member of Forest and Bird and a well known author. Earlier this year he and his wife, Claire, toured the scenic McKenzie Country. David will share his photos and stories about this trip with us. The McKenzie Country currently features large in Forest and Bird activities.

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## KAKAPO RECOVERY and ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Sunday, 22 May 2011 (Please note this is the fourth Sunday, not the usual third one of the month)**  
Mick Clout from the University of Auckland and Chair of the Kakapo Recovery Group will speak on the experiences of this group. Please note the date of this important meeting in your diary now. It will provide an opportunity for every Branch member to have your say on the running and activities of the Branch. This is a great chance to see how the committee works and let us know if you want to become more involved with the committee to plan Central Auckland's conservation programme with New Zealand's largest volunteer conservation group.

**Please change to an electronic Te Karere!** Emailing Te Karere saves on costs and decreases bad environmental effects from printing, saves paper and waste, and reduces our air pollution during the newsletter's hand-delivery. Thank you to the many of you who now receive Te Karere by email!!

*A big **THANK YOU** to all the distributors and deliverers who give up their time and energy to help our branch save on postage. They both coordinate the system and drive/tramp the streets to make hand deliveries to those members who still receive newsletters in their mailboxes. Some deliverers who cover large areas have to drive to members' homes, which seems to defeat Forest and Bird's purpose. Lastly, posting newsletters adds considerably to our costs. Your member ship fees do not cover newsletter costs.*

**Deliverers are needed** for Remuera - the area between Victoria Ave / Orakei Ave / Komaru St / Manawa Rd and 406 to 504 Remuera Road (1 or 2 people for this area would be great) and for Eastern Suburbs in the Tripoli Rd/ Queens Rd / Pilkington Rd areas.

We would like to keep increasing our electronic communication, so please update your email details at <http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/contact/update-my-membership-details> .

**This includes both Forest & Bird and KCC members.**



## Chair's Report

Happy New Year to you all. Another year with hopefully some good success stories in conservation arising, and our local projects continuing well.

The time just keeps on marching ahead, doesn't it? I was shocked (almost horrified) to realize that this will be my 24<sup>th</sup> year on the branch committee (including about a decade as chair I think). If you, like I do, think this is a long time, and want to inject some new ideas into the branch, why not consider joining our committee and putting some new blood into it? There are lots of different jobs available, and none have to be onerous. Indeed, you only ever have to do as much as you are willing and able to. Also, the more people there are, the more the workloads can be shared. Our branch AGM is on in May 22nd, and I encourage you to consider joining our committee at that time. We are available to respond to any questions you may have about the role; please send your questions to [centralaukland.branch@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:centralaukland.branch@forestandbird.org.nz) and we'll reply straight away. To give you some idea of jobs we seek help with on the committee, here is a list we put together recently for a letter to new members:

- Contributing to our newsletter, Te Karere
- Helping with electronic distributions of newsletter
- Delivering newsletters to postal addresses near your home (3 times a year for those not emailed)
- Helping with secretarial work
- Dealing with branch email correspondence
- Helping to send e-alerts to local members
- Organising meetings
- Organising conservation projects
- Helping with children's Kiwi Conservation Club events
- Media – promoting the Branch and Society
- Advertising
- Contributing to the website
- Posting about branch events
- Submission-writing or writing to MPs/council

It is always really good for a committee to have new blood to look at old problems in a different way. If you feel totally unable to commit to regular meetings, we still appreciate any help you can give from your home or work, and between us can consider how to facilitate your input to a particular job this way. It really would be good to hear from you and to allay your fears that the committee may consist only of dinosaurs like me, rest assured there's a real mix of people, and my tenure's a bit of an exception. We still need fresh blood and a regular introduction of new people to keep the

committee, and therefore the Branch, ticking over smoothly though!!

Now, to allay any possible concerns about how "genuine" people out there recruiting for F&B are, this is notice from us that there is a public programme of recruitment starting in Auckland around this time, and the recruiters (people engaged via our Head Office) will be wearing recognisable F&B identification. The police will be notified whenever this group moves to a new area in Auckland. If you have any concerns, please contact our office on [office@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:office@forestandbird.org.nz) or ph 302 0203. Otherwise know that all's in hand.

This public interface form of recruitment was extremely successful in a trial in Wellington last year, and so is now being tried up here. It is particularly gratifying to know how well-respected Forest & Bird is out in the community, with quite a number of people approached willingly signing up to join our Sustain Membership category (regular monthly giving, as opposed to a single annual sub).

Our branch committee welcomes all new members and also sends a hearty thanks to existing members for their loyal support.

*Anne*



### **Motu Manawa/Pollen Island Clean Up Saturday 19 February 2011**

Hayden Smith and Ben Harris of the Waitemata Cleanup Trust will help us in rubbish clean up of Pollen Island. This is your chance to set foot on the island and lend a hand to the flora and fauna by cleaning up their habitat. You need to feel comfortable with using a kayak as this will be the mode of transport.

We suggest that participants give a donation of around \$10 to the Cleanup Trust.

Time: 9am – 12 noon

Place: the wharf at Te Atatu Boating Club in Bridge Ave., Te Atatu South

Bring: gloves and strong lace-up shoes.



## **AIDA Door Knocking for Forest & Bird Funds and Members**

Some of you may have read in Nature in Action Forest & Bird has begun Face to Face regular donor recruitment and has contracted a company called Aida to conduct this programme for us. This involves recruiters going around door to door signing up regular donor to Forest & Bird. Each person who signs up pays a monthly donation and receives complimentary membership. So people signed up in your area will be allocated to your branch as members (complimentary).

People can choose to sign up for \$25 per month donation and receive the F&B magazine (and other member benefits) or they can sign up for \$39 per month donation and receive the F&B magazine and KCC magazines (and other member benefits). This makes it a great option for families.

As a matter of course Aida notifies the police that recruiters will be collecting in the local area. They will be wearing Forest & Bird jackets and will have identification badges.

The recruiters have primarily been working in Wellington with trips to other parts of New Zealand. We're putting together an educational about Auckland conservation issues and Forest & Bird activities in the Auckland region.

If you have any feedback, questions or complaints about the recruiters, please refer them to Forest & Bird's senior recruiter Kerin Welford. She can be contacted on 04 801 2212 or [k.welford@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:k.welford@forestandbird.org.nz).

## **Businesses Helping Forest and Bird**

Two environmentally aware businesses are working with Forest and Bird. The first is Ethcs (not mis-spelled). Shane, the owner, wanted to do business in a different, more humane and environmentally friendly way. So he's donating \$5 from every T-shirt sale to Forest and Bird. He packages every T-shirt himself, sends everything, and manages the website and all the administration, too. As for the name, he says, "Well, Ethcs stands for the way I'd like to do business, ya know, by being ethical. But my friends helped inspire this journey so much that

I figured it's not all about me and dropped the 'i' from ethics and thus Ethcs was born". He doesn't have a store, but please find his clever and attractive merchandise at <http://www.ethcsstore.com/kiwi-shop>.

The other business is Down to Earth household cleaning products. They're Forest and Bird's Official Guardian of the endangered Maui and Hector dolphins. For \$45, you can adopt Sally, Flipper, Seadance, Finn, Bubbles, Whipper, Raindrop, or Bruce. 'Parents' receive an adoption pack containing a personalised Adoption Certificate, activities book, poster, a photo of your adopted dolphin and other items, including samples of Down To Earth product. Profits go to Forest and Bird's campaigns to protect these dolphins. Their website is <http://dteproducts.co.nz>.

Please consider adopting one of these endangered dolphins; if you can't do that, then buy Down to Earth's environmentally gentle cleaning products. Either way, you're helping conserve New Zealand's natural environment.



## **Kokako Update from Ark in the Park**

News from Ark in the Park is that the first Kokako chick to be born there in over fifty years has successfully fledged. The new chick is called Miro. The parent birds were Maurice and Kowhai. And there may be more good news to follow, as Moby and Punga, the birds brought from Tiritiri Matangi, also have a nest with a chick. Our nest-finding team believes they may have found a third nesting pair not far from the site where Miro was born. Happy birthday, Miro! Welcome to Ark in the Park.





## KCC NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2011 TO JUNE 2011

YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS - MARIANNE AND MARGUERITE

Access our website on [www.forestandbird.org.nz](http://www.forestandbird.org.nz); [www.kcc.org.nz](http://www.kcc.org.nz)

### PROGRAMME

#### 6 MARCH 2011

#### ARK IN THE PARK WALK

Meet at **10am** at the car park for a guided walk around Auckland City walk and check out where bats roost, bait stations, the giant totara tree and (hopefully) we can spot some friendly robins and other bird life! We may even be lucky enough to see a Kokako – a second release has recently occurred!! The walk is fairly easy but walking shoes and a sunhat are recommended.

For more information about the project check out - <http://www.arkinthe.org.nz/>. Bring your lunch and enjoy a picnic on the grassy knoll above the car park area with us after the walk.

Please book with Marian O'Brien: [marindob@gmail.com](mailto:marindob@gmail.com) by 27 February 2011.

#### 3 April 2011

#### UNDERWATER WORLD AT LEIGH MARINE RESERVE

Tony & Jenny Enderby are going to help us explore this amazing marine reserve again. High tide is at 1:18 pm so we will explore the rocky shore first and then go snorkelling. For snorkelling, all children must wear a wetsuit and be accompanied by a guardian. Please bring wetsuits, masks, snorkels and fins if you have them; otherwise, the Enderbys will provide a selection of items. The **cost** per child is \$5 for the rocky shore and \$15 for snorkelling.

Please bring warm clothes, sturdy shoes, togs, towel, mask, a sunhat, sunscreen, food and drink, and flippers, mask etc. for snorkelling.

Meet at the Goat Island Marine Reserve (near Leigh), under the **big pohutukawa** tree to the left of the staircase down to the beach, as **12:30 pm**.

Book with Marguerite: [mlp418@gmail.com](mailto:mlp418@gmail.com) by 25 March 2011.

#### 13-14 May 2011

#### KCC WEEKEND AT RUAPEHU

An exciting family KCC weekend away staying in the new F&B Lodge at Ruapehu. We have booked the whole lodge for our group **so please indicate your family's interest in attending to Marguerite** on [mlp418@gmail.com](mailto:mlp418@gmail.com) **ASAP**. Programme and costs will follow to those who express an interest. Activities will include exploring and walking, learning about alpine vegetation, pests and volcanoes, games, and hopefully a ride on the chairlifts. Currently we are looking at making it free for KCCers and asking other family members to pay a set fee for accommodation and food.

#### 19 or 26 June PLANTING ON MOTUIHE ISLAND WITH A MATARIKI THEME

This will be a day outing organised by Marianne and the Motuihe Island Trust during Matariki (Maori New Year). Traditionally this was a great time to plant crops and vegetation. Please indicate your interest in attending to Marianne by emailing [marianne@value.net.nz](mailto:marianne@value.net.nz) ASAP.

**Any problems? Any questions? Please phone Marguerite on 021 930 440.**

## PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES: FEBRUARY 2011 – JULY 2011

### BUS TRIPS AND VISITS

FIELD TRIPS BY BUS: Unless otherwise stated, the bus will leave from the lower Albert Street bus stop at 9am. All trips pick up at the Takapuna Rose Gardens. Trips heading south also pick up at Harp of Erin, whilst those heading north also pick up at Point Chevalier. Please advise where you will board the bus when booking your trip. You should be suitably clad and shod for the area and conditions expected.

BOOKINGS: please forward a cheque payable to FOREST & BIRD SOCIETY to the booking officer immediately after booking. Refunds will not be given (except for sudden illness or urgent reasons, at the discretion of the committee) unless cancellation is notified by the Wednesday prior to the trip.

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#### SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2011 HAPPY DAYS LUNCH

Bus departs Albert Street at 11.00 am and Harp of Erin at 11.15 am. North Shore pick up will operate as usual. We hope that many of our past day trippers can come along and join us at this special lunch.

**BOOK:** With Sally on (09) 528 7506

**COST:** \$33.00 (includes a buffet lunch at Happy Days Restaurant at Manukau City). Drinks from the bar are extra.

#### SATURDAY 26 MARCH 2011

##### SAIL ON THE RESTORED JANE GIFFORD

(This is the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, not our usual third Saturday as sailings depend on tidal conditions.) We have booked a one hour trip on the Jane Gifford on the Mahurangi River. We shall return to Warkworth for a picnic lunch and a walk along the river. Please wear soft soled shoes for the boat trip and bring a warm jacket.

**BOOK:** With John on (09) 528 7506; **COST:** \$40.00



#### SATURDAY 16 APRIL 2011 EARTHTALK AT AWHITU

A return visit to Charmaine Poutney's garden on the Awhitu peninsula. A talk and guided walk are included in the cost. After lunch we'll drive to

the Awhitu Lighthouse to see the spectacular views.

**BOOK:** With Lou on (09) 376 4072

**COST:** \$46.00 (includes entry fee to Garden)

#### SATURDAY 21 MAY 2011 WAIATARUA WETLANDS AND ORAKEI BASIN WALKWAY

An opportunity to see how the wetlands are developing and to explore the completed Orakei Basin walkway.

**BOOK:** With Sally on (09) 528 7506

**COST:** \$20.00

#### SATURDAY 18 JUNE 2011 TOY AND TODDY DAY!

Visit Bill's Antique Toy Museum at Whitford and enjoy a midwinter lunch at Howick RSA.

**BOOK:** With John on (09) 5287506

**COST:** \$36.00 - includes morning tea, lunch and admission to Museum

#### SATURDAY 16 JULY 2011 MYSTERY TRIP

Christine - our driver - has planned an exciting day out for us - up North. Please note early departure time. Meals are not included in the price but it will be possible to buy lunch on the day if you wish to.

**BOOK:** With Isabel on (09) 528 3986

**COST:** \$36.00 - includes entry fee

**DEPARTURES:** ALBERT ST. AT 8:30AM AND PT. CHEV. AT 8:40AM

#### Help Clean Up the Whau River

Friends of Whau are organizing a clean-up of the Whau River, which is near Motu Manawa marine reserve please. Clean-up is either by boat (Waitemata Harbour Care is helping with this); some people will be using kayaks, and there will be shoreline clean-ups if wanted as well. Further details will be available nearer the time. Please keep an eye out on our website if you can. The clean-up happens on **26 February**. Meet at Archibald Reserve in Kelston at 1 pm. This coincides with Forest and Bird's Day on a River.



## A New Type of Butterfly in Auckland?

Auckland Museum's entomologist John Early has spotted a new type of butterfly in Auckland. Here's his message:

On 15 January 2011 I saw an unusual butterfly fluttering around and feeding on Agapanthus flowers in an Epsom garden. It was clearly one of the swallowtail butterflies in the genus *Papilio* of which there are many species throughout the world but none in New Zealand...until now! I was able to see it briefly up close but not able to capture it to get an accurate identification. It was similar in general colour and appearance to the one pictured here but there are many species that look much like this and the differences between them can be subtle. Slightly smaller than a monarch and being much paler in colour (a nice creamy lemon) with contrasting oblique black bands across the forewings made it stand out from a distance. Its flight is more swift than the lazy lolloping flight of a monarch.

What species of *Papilio* is it? Where did it come from? How did it get here? Is it established and breeding here? Is there only one or are there more? Is it only in Auckland or also in other parts of NZ as well? Your help is vital in answering these questions.

Please keep your eyes peeled for this butterfly - and report any sightings to John - [jearly@aucklandmuseum.com](mailto:jearly@aucklandmuseum.com) with details on where and when you saw it. An actual specimen to confirm the record is needed - failing that, a good photo.



## Forest & Bird's Matuku Reserve

Situated in the hills behind Bethell's beach, this forest and wetland sanctuary is Forest & Bird's second-largest reserve occupying a total of 120 hectares. The larger part of the reserve is native forest which is best described as coastally influenced lowland broadleaf forest, with emergent tanekaha and kauri on ridges. Dense with fruiting & flowering species such as puriri, karaka, nikau, rewarewa, kowhai, pigeonwood and mahoe, the forest is a good food source for the thriving tui & kereru populations. In all, over 250 plant species have been recorded in the forest, from perching lilies and orchids to a luxuriant carpet of ferns & sedges that covers the forest floor.



At the base of these slopes is the reserve's 20 hectare wetland, part of the wider Te Henga Wetland, the largest relatively unmodified freshwater marshland in the Auckland region. An un-signposted 60 metre boardwalk allows informed members to experience the dense wetland vegetation and perhaps see some of its birdlife such as fernbird, pukeko, black swan, and mallard.

Having acquired the reserve in 1979 we can now see how well the forest is responding to several years of pest control, with a surge in the number of tomtits, fantails, tui and kereru. Most surprising however has been the boom in the insect population, with large invertebrates such as cave weta thriving in these parts. Indeed, in recent years several major entomological discoveries have been made in this reserve, making Matuku a rewarding scientific field for entomologists.

Access: At one kilometre along Jonkers Road go left into narrow Snows Lane at the Forest & Bird sign. One kilometre down this lane pass viewing platform and entrance, and reach car park 100 metres further on. Entry is free.



## Wild Wetland Walk on Waitangi day, February 6, 2011

Come celebrate World Wetland Day at Matuku/ Te Henga wetland and help celebrate Ramsar's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in protecting wetlands across the world!

Through 2010, work commenced on clearing a track to allow easy access by the wetland edge to control predators throughout the whole reserve. The route came upon an old embankment constructed and used in the 1920s to haul kauri logs to the railhead and on to the mill.

Help Waitakere Branch of Forest & Bird celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ramsar, with a self-guided walk along this embankment. With the Ramsar theme for 2011 being Wetlands & Forests, Matuku is a great example of both.

Access on this day from the Bethell's valley gives a flat 2.5km return trip. Reed beds, flax and cabbage tree habitat, emerging kahikatea are to one side and the rapidly regenerating forest the other.

Fernbirds are frequently observed but bitterns [matuku] after which the Reserve is named, are heard more than seen. Twelve years of predator control means the forest has good numbers of tui, pigeon, fantail, and now, tomtit have returned. It is part of an important corridor from the Ark in the Park to the coast with robins nearby and one of the released kokako has wandered along also.

Of course the walk can be extended westward to the original part of the Reserve with two small easy hill sections that offer different views of the wetland and forest. Access [10 am to 4 pm] will be through 119 Bethell's Road with nearby parking. Please consider carpooling for the environment and to reduce total car numbers present.

The walk is suitable for families, it's flat, it's nearly all dry but sorry, no dogs allowed on the private property and the reserve. A gold coin donation would be appreciated to help Forest and Bird's ongoing predator control at the reserve.

## The Forest & Bird Facebook Backyard Bioblitz Photo Competition

Out of 86 photos, Duncan Wright shared the winning spot in this year's photo competition with this spectacular shot of a kaka in Wellington. To see all the great entries, go to

<http://www.facebook.com/ForestandBird?ref=ts#!/album.php?aid=247397&id=1375404376>



## Members of your committee

Anne Fenn, Chair                      fenn4@xtra.co.nz  
Isabel Still, Secretary                528-3986  
John Hally, Treasurer                528-7506  
Marguerite Pearson, KCC,      mlp418@gmail.com  
Barbara T., newsletter editor      bt@bt.gen.nz  
Lati Moodie                      latimoodie@gmail.com  
Donald Kerr                      donaldfab@gmail.com  
Marcus Freeman                      freemarcus@gmail.com

## Useful Auckland City contacts

1. Public Transport Information (for bus, train, ferry and carpooling), phone Maxx on 366-6400 or view their website at [www.maxx.co.nz](http://www.maxx.co.nz).
2. Pollution 24-hour Hotline, within Auckland: 366 2000
3. Pest information: [www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/council/services/pests/default.asp](http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/council/services/pests/default.asp).
4. North Shore Bird Rescue Centre: contact Sylvia Durrant on 478 8819.

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Contact any of us if you want to contribute to what Forest & Bird does in the Central Auckland Branch.

**Our Email:    [forestandbird@gmail.com](mailto:forestandbird@gmail.com)**

**Auckland Regional Office: 3020 203; 302 3901**

**Our website: [www.forestandbird.org.nz](http://www.forestandbird.org.nz), refer "What's On in Your Area" and then "Events"**

TE KARERE is your newsletter - if you have any comments on its presentation or the type of information included, please let us know. It is also a way your committee keeps you informed about the local events and meetings and the local and regional issues with which your committee is involved. Any feedback you have is welcome and may be directed to the postal address on this page, attention Anne Fenn, or by email to the Editor at [forestandbird@gmail.com](mailto:forestandbird@gmail.com).

**Any opinions expressed in feature or guest articles contributed to Te Karere are those of the contributing authors, societies or other organizations and are not the opinions or policies of Forest & Bird, nor are they necessarily endorsed by Forest & Bird.**

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**TE KARERE**



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**Forest  
& Bird**

GIVING NATURE  
A VOICE

**KCC Newsletter  
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