

## Branch Newsletter: February 2009

### Seven Wonders

The Seven Wonders summer nature programme is off to a great start! Thanks to everyone who supported the bus trips so far; the first three have been sell-outs. There may be a few tickets left to the remaining four trips, try your luck on 350 1922 or visit the iSite.

### What's On

In recognition of the downturn in the economy, we open 2009 with an offer two for the price of one. This month we feature two fantastic public talks, one Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> plus our regular one on 10 February. The two talks are literally a world apart, but both firmly centre on practical conservation of the amazing natural world we live in. Enjoy.

#### **Public Talk 1 'Turitea Reserve: Inside A Hidden Treasure'**

Be there Monday! A highly recommended talk about the Turitea Reserve by Forest & Bird Manawatu member Adrian Cookson, one of the few who has spent much time on the inside of this nature reserve. His illustrated talk will show the natural diversity and history of the Reserve that forms the backdrop to our city.

Maybe you've only heard of the Turitea Reserve as a water supply for the city, or since the power companies have come courting. Maybe you know where it is or have even ventured as far as the locked gates. Or maybe you simply walk your dog alongside the stream at Massey and wonder where it begins.... Come along and find out!

We are also trying to get flyers up around town, if you could print a couple of the attached flyers and post them that would be greatly appreciated.

#### **Monday 2nd February 7.30 pm**

Te Manawa Science Centre, Palmerston North  
Entry by Gold Coin Donation

<<Turitea Reserve flyer FB.pdf>>

#### **Public Talk 2 'Protecting wildlife in Africa: selling out or buying in?'**

Are we selling out to the dark side when we commercialise wildlife, or buying in to the only thing that will save it? Whether you fancy stunning images of Africa's amazing animals; or are interested in the reality and debate around wildlife conservation in the

world's poorest nations, this talk is sure to be a fascinating one. Speaker Peter Frost recently came to Wanganui from Africa, where he had a diverse and distinguished career in wildlife conservation. Come along and enjoy the pictures, and be prepared to be challenged in your thinking about how wildlife protection really works.

**Tuesday 10th February 7:30pm, Te Manawa Science Centre**

Speaker: Peter Frost, Wanganui; formerly Associate Professor, Institute of Environmental Studies, University of Zimbabwe.

Please bring a gold coin to help cover costs of hiring the room.

## Work Party at Te One

**Sunday 28th February/Sunday 1st March**

Come for a half a day or the whole weekend. Te One is a rare forest remnant on a river terrace that we are helping to restore. With all the adult sycamore weeds now down, it's a matter of clearing the seedling weeds and getting underway with replanting. Ring Sally Pearce on 359 4326 to join Team Te One for the day or the entire weekend with free accommodation. Te One surrounds a beautiful homestead surrounded by 10 hectares of covenanted native bush, on the Kawhatau Valley's river terraces near Mangaweka.

Leader: Sally Pearce, phone 359 4326

\*\*Please contact the trip leader as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

## Summer Love

Love Nature this Valentine's Day Working Bee at Kahuterawa Bush hosted by Palmerston North Rotary, Saturday 14 February. Details in Next Newsletter. Manawatu Botanical Society had a species list outing to the Kahuterawa Bush Reserve which confirmed and added species to a list Michael Greenwood drew up some years prior. They are still compiling this current effort but a couple points of significance were a very large Kanuka and a couple of onga-onga; probably the last naturally occurring example in the Manawatu lowlands

Love Nature Always Love nature, care for the web? A volunteer with basic computer skills is needed to keep the Manawatu corner of the Forest & Bird web up to scratch. You only need to be able to access the web, making the changes online is the same as typing an email, so no special skills needed! Three hours a month will do the trick. Contact [forestbirdmanawatu@gmail.com](mailto:forestbirdmanawatu@gmail.com) if you're keen.

Other Local Branches This Month: (see your programme for more details)

### Horowhenua (Levin):

Public Talk: Transition Towns (Deidre Kent). Monday 16th February

Trip: Beach Patrol: Otaki Beach North. Wednesday 4th February

Trip: KCC Picnic and Bush Walk: Mt Lees. Saturday 14th February

Trip: Matiu/Soames Island (overnight). Saturday 21/Sunday 22 February

### Rangitikei (Marton):

Trip: 4WD Trip to Delaware Ridge, Ruahines. Saturday 21 February

### Wanganui (Wanganui):

Trip: Taonui Stream Wetland, Ohakune. Saturday 28th February