



## MEETINGS – WINTER/SPRING 2009

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

## RARE PLANTS OF AUCKLAND – Rebecca Stanley Sunday, 19 July, 2009

Rebecca is a Natural Heritage Ecologist with the Auckland Regional Council. Her talk is about the threatened native plants within the Auckland area. Come along and hear why our plants have become so rare and what we might do about it.

## KAIKOURA ISLAND – Mel Galbraith

Sunday, 20 September, 2009

Mel Galbraith, a lecturer in Natural Sciences at Unitec, has been involved with Kaikoura Island since it was purchased four years ago. With his interest in ornithology, Mel will update us with what is happening on this Hauraki Gulf island, especially to the birds found there.

## THE NEW K.C.C. WEBSITE – Mandy Herrick

Sunday, 15 November, 2009

As communications Officer/Website for Forest & Bird, Mandy Herrick is now based at the Auckland office. The Central Auckland branch helped fund the new KCC website, and Mandy will bring us up to date with this exciting new site for KCC children and their families. This meeting should be of special interest to our KCC families.

## Please change to an electronic Te Karere!

Sending Te Kerere by email saves on costs and decreases bad environmental effects from printing, saves paper and waste, and reduces our carbon footprint during the newsletter's hand-delivery. Thank you to the many of you who have come after our request last year. We would like to keep increasing this as much as possible. So please update your email details

<http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/support/membership/changedetails.asp> or send us an email to [forestandbird@gmail.com](mailto:forestandbird@gmail.com) with "Email address" in the subject line. **This includes both Forest and Bird and KCC members.**

**Many thanks** to those who continue to assist with deliveries of the Newsletter. There are some areas where we need help (about an hour, three times a year): **Sandringham, Hobson, Remuera, Ellerslie, Ponsonby/Grey Lynn/Herne Bay, Mt Eden/Epsom, and St, Johns.** If you can help, email us at [forestandbird@gmail.com](mailto:forestandbird@gmail.com) or phone Barbara on 585 1370.

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## Chair's Report to the Annual General Meeting held 17 May, 2009

Once again, this last year has been a positive one. We have seen local and national advances. Forest & Bird's real strength lies in having 47 local branches who do local hands-on conservation work throughout New Zealand, while we pay a staff to be our strong lobbying voice at a national level. We work on local hands-on conservation projects, they work mostly on national matters. This is why we're such a strong voice nation-wide. And to make sure the staff are saying the right things to the right people, the branches work through an executive that they elect to tell the staff what the Society wants them to focus on.

Locally we have made a few submissions this year about Auckland-specific matters, like the Orakei Point development, the proposed changes to the RMA, and the effect of a Super-city on our regional parks network. Members have attended meetings about things like the city's district plan and the ARC's ten-year plan, the proposed development near Selwyn College, and the Highway 20 development in Mt Roskill and through Waterview at Oakley Creek or Heron Park.

We continue to do work on Forest and Bird's Auckland Naturally campaign to link up corridors of bush across the city. We're focusing on the Hamlins Hill/Mangere Inlet foreshore area where our branch started restoration plantings about 10 years ago.

We have had displays and stands to raise the profile of Forest and Bird, like the WAZOO stand at the zoo last December. Upcoming events are another stand at Auckland University's Ecofest to encourage more students to join us and promotion at Whitespace Gallery's art exhibition in Ponsonby on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. All donations from it go to Forest and Bird's pest control and the Dawn Chorus campaign.

Central Auckland branch continues a very healthy financial situation, enough that we could totally fund the revamp of a website for Kiwi Conservation Club. Paying for all the

bells and whistles will hopefully attract today's techno-savvy children to become the newest intake of soldiers in a future Green Army. We alert you to read about it in this next issue of the Forest and Bird magazine. The very latest news is that our society's General Manager is in England for an International Birdlife Conference this week and will visit the Royal Society of Protection for Birds to see if we may beg, steal, or borrow some of their website's good interactive games.

We have been very active this year in the whole area of email and website communications, as well as in the production of our branch newsletter and delivery of it to email and postal addresses three times a year. There's always opportunity for others to help us in these areas of either website-editing or newsletter delivery, and we'd love to hear from anyone who can help.

All these things accompany the work done on our behalf by the paid staff. For example, the Auckland office is transferring more native birds to Ark in the Park in Waitakere, creating another bush corridor at Lucas Creek on the North shore for Auckland Naturally, and producing a brochure for parks and reserves managers about the Kauri Collar Rot disease.

At the national office F&B continues focusing on pest control and stopping forest collapse all around the country, and on the protection of our freshwater rivers and lakes from huge applications to take water for irrigation and hydro, like the Mokihinui River and the Waikato River. Often this means going to court to battle applicants like the big power companies, which isn't cheap!! Focus on marine issues is the continuing protection of Hector and Maui dolphins, our sea-lions, and our seabirds, as well as lobbying for more marine reserves. The office is also continuing focus on public access to South Island High Country and the changes proposed by the new government to the Tenure Review process. Lastly, they keep an eye on and voice any concerns about legislation, for example, the recent proposals to amend the Resource Management Act.



## Chair's Report continued

A lot of emphasis is going on improving communications, both internally between staff and branches, and externally, with the Forest and Bird and the KCC "Wild Things" magazines. Both magazines are bigger and brighter, as you'll see in the next issues. The website and email are proving to be excellent tools for making internal communication easier. I encourage those with internet access to look at the recent developments on the Forest and Bird website and to check it regularly for new information about campaigns and local events. One of my personal favourites on the F&B website is a new Chat Room, where members can post any queries they have, even queries like "what bird or plant is this?" and a whole lot of people are available to answer. I also like the "What's Going On in Your Area" section which lists the events in branches all over the Auckland region and has maps of our local F&B reserves, lodges, and projects.

In conclusion, although there is a lot going on, and because there are not many of us, any help we can get is much appreciated. The alternate-monthly public meetings are a problem.. Unless someone is available to help with organizing and running these regular meetings, we're afraid that later this year, we will have to reduce their number. Attendance to these is declining and often doesn't warrant the work and cost of putting them on. We also need to re-look at our trips. If there are particular trips you'd like to see, think about getting together with others to organize them. We'll give you as much help and encouragement as we can.

Finally, and sadly, a number of committee members have resigned from the committee this year. We say goodbye and wish a huge thanks for their work to Sally Hally, Jon Monk, Arthur Vivian, Nanda McLaren, and John Norris, who between them must have some 30 to 35 years of collective experience on the Committee. We will sorely miss you. You have done a tremendous amount of work to keep the branch active and functional.










So saying, we extend our thanks to those staying on and welcome a couple of new members. Of course, we invite anyone else to join us. Please feel free to contact us. We promise not to work anyone too hard or get you to agree to giving any more time and input than you're able. We've even had people doing particular jobs but unable to attend regular committee meetings. If you're in this situation, this is fine - we'd welcome your involvement.

Anne

## NEW CHAT ROOM ON WEBSITE

Go to <http://forum.forestandbird.org.nz> to enter the new chat room that gives our members and those people interested in conservation the chance to discuss issues.

Here are some potential uses –

-  To recruit potential volunteers for a project
-  To draw people's attention to a certain website, you tube video, pledge, petition or article that relates to a campaign
-  To share pictures of recent events
-  To post pictures of plants, birds, insects, fungi etc and get them identified
-  To post submissions & newsletters
-  To flag upcoming events, natural (eg godwit arrival) or non-natural (eg Reel Earth opening night)
-  To publicise conservation trouble spots and successes
-  To share new conservation techniques/products, eg new traps, new planting ideas
-  To publicise awards and grants available to conservationists



## FOCUS ON YOUTH: FOREST & BIRD'S FUTURE

Some of Central Auckland branch's recent activities and grants have gone towards increasing interest of children and young adults in conservation. Your branch funded almost all of an interactive website for children on the Forest & Bird site. Due later this year, it'll be informational and promotional. Also, the branch donated the cost of a gathering for Kiwi Conservation Club coordinators in Christchurch in March. They learned new games and techniques whilst sharing their knowledge and experiences.

In May, with funding from the other local branches targeted at attracting more youth, we gave away seven student memberships at the University of Auckland's Ecofest. 32 young adults, most of them students, signed up at the Forest & Bird stall.

Most rewarding, however, has been the grant to Beach Haven Primary school for an outing to Tiritiri Matangi Island. In March all students at Beach Haven School ferried to the Island to see the bird haven and learn about native birds and saving protected species. It took two trips to get the whole school body there; the Central Auckland branch paid for one of the trips, and the school raised funds for the other. Tiritiri Matangi guides volunteered their time to this low decile school.

The school has used this event to inspire stories, poems, and even making a quilt. The following is excerpted from one of many stories the students wrote of their Big Day Out.

### **Tiritiri Matangi Island**

*We saw the most amazing birds I have ever seen. The Fantail was the best because the fantail put its tail up and we all said wow. We took photos of the birds*

*in the forest. We saw Greg the greedy Takahe and all the other Takahes that were there. The Takahes were Greenish blue, they had beautiful feathers and we also saw a pukeko as well she had long legs and big feet.*

*We decided to go down to Hobbs beach. I saw one slippery slimy eel come out of some rocks and it swam away like it was frightened. I got really scared so I sprinted out of the water and quickly put on my shoes and sat on the logs. My heart was beating as fast as a running tiger. My legs were shaking and so were my hands.*

By: Kakara Turner

Here's a poem inspired by the visit:

#### What's on the island?

A fat kereru spying?

A lonely saddle back singing?

A scary takahe sneaking ?

A little tui hiding ?

A big bellbird hunting?

A small morepork whistling?

We don't know.....let's go and see!

Moses Vakata Age 10

#### **Planting at Heron Park - Waterview**

On Sunday, 19 July meet at Heron Park carpark (end of Cadman Place off Fairlands Avenue, Waterview) for 10am planting. Plantings will focus on the creek edge between the willows and southern bridge to help shade the water and provide a suitable habitat for aquatic life. Please bring -

- Friends and family
- Sturdy shoes (e.g., gumboots, running shoes)
- Clothes for the weather (e.g. raincoat if wet)
- Strong gloves (e.g., garden gloves)
- A spade if you can

Refreshments provided-

- Barbecue food
- Orange drink, biscuits and fruit

**For more information call 379 2020 and speak with the park volunteer co-ordinator.**



# Kiwi Conservation Club



**KCC NEWSLETTER JUNE TO DECEMBER 2009**

**YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS ARE SIOBHAN, MARIANNE AND MARGUERITE**

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

To join our email tree to receive up to the minute news on conservation topics, please email Siobhan with "KCC email tree" in the subject line.

## **PROGRAMME**

### **SATURDAY 13 JUNE**

### **TIRITIRI MATANGI TALK AND ACTIVITIES**

Get first hand information about the Tiritiri Matangi Wildlife Sanctuary from Anne Rimmer, a member of the Tiri supporters group and a guide on Tiri. She has written an award winning book about the island. All KCC Auckland Branches are warmly invited.

**Time: 2.15pm - 4.45**

**Place: Kelston Community Centre (Great North Rd & Awaroa Rd)**

### **SATURDAY 20 JUNE 2009**

### **MATARIKI BREAKFAST**

Celebrate the festival of Matariki at One Tree Hill. Pre-dawn walk to the summit of Maungakiekie to view the star cluster Matariki followed by breakfast and video show at the Stardome observatory.

**Time: 5.45am to 8.00am**

**Cost: Adult:\$35.00 Child:\$25.00 (12 and under)**

**Please book directly with Stardome but register with Siobhan.**

### **SUNDAY 26 JULY 2009**

### **BUTTERFLY CREEK**

Meet at Butterfly Creek at 10:30 a.m. for a talk from Paul, the Butterfly Man. Learn about the life history of butterflies and their importance for the environment. Special entry fee of \$6.50 for children and \$14.00 for adults gives entry to the butterfly house, the farm, and the train.

**More details on booking with Marianne at [marianne@value.net.nz](mailto:marianne@value.net.nz).**

### **SUNDAY 16 AUGUST**

### **MOTUIHE ISLAND**

Spend the morning tree planting or working in the nursery and the afternoon exploring. Wear warm, waterproof clothing and sensible shoes and bring plenty to eat and drink. Register with Siobhan but book your boat trip through 360 Discovery on 0800 360 3472 (\$19.00 return).

**Boat departs at 9.15 am from Pier 4, Quay Street.**

### **SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

### **BIRD RESCUE**

Visit Sylvia Durrant's bird rescue facility at 1/13 Montgomery Avenue, Rothesay Bay. Meet outside at 11.00 am. Bring old sheets, towels or a monetary gift to help Sylvia in her great work.

**Please book with Marianne at [marianne@value.net.nz](mailto:marianne@value.net.nz) as numbers are limited.**

### **SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER**

### **WATERCARE WALKWAY**

Meet at the Coronation Road entrance to the walkway at 11.00 am. Bring a picnic lunch, plenty of water and binoculars (if you have them). Please book with Siobhan who will supply further details.

### **SATURDAY 05 DECEMBER**

### **PENGUIN PARTY**

More details in our next newsletter and through our email tree.

**Any problems? Any questions? Please phone Marguerite on 376 1149.**

**PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES:  
JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2009****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.

**SATURDAY 20 JUNE 2009 –  
FOOD AND WALKS**

Explore the Warkworth area and enjoy a hot lunch.

**Cost:** \$35 (includes a two-course lunch)

**Bookings:** John Hally, 528 7506

**SATURDAY 25 JULY 2009 – Change of  
date****SHAKESPEAR REGIONAL PARK**

Spend a day exploring this beautiful Regional Park; see if you can spot any kakariki or bellbirds that have flown over from Tiritiri Matangi Island.

**Cost:** \$22

**Bookings:** Isabel Still, 528 3986

**SATURDAY 15 AUGUST 2009 –  
POINT ENGLAND WALKWAY**

This is a 'hop on, hop off' walk where you can choose which segments of the walk you wish to do; includes Tahuna Torea Nature Reserve.

**Cost:** \$20

**Bookings:** Lou Kokich, 376 4072

**SUNDAY 06 SEPTEMBER 2009 -  
REUNION LUNCHEON**

It is 20 years on 16 September this year since Steve Paxton, for Bayes Coach Lines, started driving for our monthly trips. Join us on Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> to celebrate our association with Bayes and to catch up with old friends. Very little walking on this trip! But you will have to provide your own transport. A three-course luncheon will be served at the Estragon Restaurant, Panmure - your choice from a wide and delicious menu. \$35.00 per person, licensed and B.Y.O. First 45 to register will be accommodated. Book with Sally on (09) 528 7506 by 09 August.

**SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2009 –  
GOLDFIELDS RAIL LINE****Note: 8:15 a.m. start**

Ride the Goldfields Rail line from Waihi to Waikino and return. View the Martha Goldmine at Waihi.

**Cost:** \$40 (includes train fare)

Option to book a \$10 lunch at the Waikino Café – please advise on booking

**Bookings:** John Hally, 528 7506

**SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER 2009  
GARDENS GALORE**

Visit three gardens in the South Auckland area - Atarangi, Amesbury Park and Quarter Acre Paradise - Dale Harvey's garden in Mangere East.

**Cost: \$37.00** (includes 3 entry fees and morning tea)

**Bookings:** Sally Hally on 528 7506

**SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2009  
WAIHEKE ISLAND**

Travel on your Gold Card to Waiheke Island then board a special bus for a tour of the island. Meet at the Assembly Point at Fullers Pier 2 at 9.40 am to catch the 10.00 am ferry. Purchase your boat ticket using your Gold Card. Bring a picnic lunch or buy on the island. Tea and coffee available for purchase on the ferry. Return to Auckland on the 3.00pm ferry (journey takes 35 minutes)

**Cost: \$12.50** - for bus tour on the island

**Bookings:** John Hally on 528 7506



## ALARM AT PROTECTED SPECIES KILLED IN COASTAL FISHERIES

While we continue to celebrate the success of the marine protection and restrictions on set nets off our west coast to protect Maui dolphins, this release from Forest & Bird Conservation Advocate Kirstie Knowles calls for more areas of restricted set netting.

Set nets catch more protected species than previously thought, according to Ministry of Fisheries' observer programme results released on the Ministry website today. These results reinforce Forest & Bird's concern about the indiscriminate nature of set net fishing. Forest & Bird is calling for a nationwide ban on set nets. The Ministry of Fisheries observer programme, in which independent observers spend time on fishing boats to count accidental deaths of other creatures, shows that protected species are more vulnerable to capture than previously thought.

In just two months, observers on set net and inshore trawl vessels recorded the accidental death of a significant number of seabirds, including 24 albatrosses, 32 shags, and five endangered yellow-eyed penguins, plus nine common dolphins, three fur seals, and one great white shark. Some of these species have never been recorded killed in these fisheries before.

Capture of protected species in set nets around New Zealand was well publicised last year after the Government introduced set net restrictions to protect endangered Hector's dolphins and critically endangered Maui's dolphins. The observers did not see any Hector's dolphins killed this summer, but they did record interactions of the dolphins with fishing gear. Many Hector's dolphins were observed around boats in areas where set netting is still allowed. The dolphins spend more time offshore in winter, and the report says that the level of interaction with fishing will increase.

"These new results show that set nets catch more than fish," Kirstie Knowles says. "They also highlight the importance of having observers on fishing vessels and the need for ongoing work with fishers to ensure good knowledge of fisheries-related deaths in the future."

The observer programme this summer had the highest level of coverage ever achieved on smaller inshore vessels. Before this research, seabird captures across other New Zealand fisheries were estimated to be more than 3000 each year, including many species threatened with extinction.

Forest & Bird wants the Ministry of Fisheries to set up an incident action team to strengthen the management of bycatch. The Ministry indicated to Forest & Bird that it is keen to do this.

## ART FOR THE BIRDS

### A FUNDRAISING EXHIBITION

The Whitespace Art Gallery has designated their next public showing as a fundraiser for Auckland Forest & Bird in an exhibition called **Chorus**. Nic Moon, one of the 14 displayed artists, visited Fiordland to hear the bird chorus, and, hearing none, realized the devastation which pests like rats and stoats have had on the birdlife in our forests. She returned to Auckland and with other artists, including Don Binney and Greer Twiss, organised this exhibition to praise New Zealand's native birds and to support Forest & Bird for its work in restoring the Dawn Chorus. While there's no entry fee, there will be a box asking for donations to Forest & Bird. Monies from pictures sold at the exhibition go to the artist.

**When:** opening night 2 June, 5:30 to 7:30; exhibition runs till 27 June. Hours are 11.00-6.00 Tues-Fri and Sat 11.00-4.00.

**Where:** Whitespace Art Gallery,  
12 Crummer Road, Ponsonby

*Mad Tuis over Homestead, Te Henga*  
By Don Binney



Image thanks to Don Binney and Whitespace Gallery



### Members of your committee

Anne Fenn - Chair, fenn4@xtra.co.nz  
Isabel Still - Secretary, 528-3986  
John Hally - Treasurer, 528-7506  
Marguerite Pearson - Vice-chair; KCC, 376-1149  
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Mark Winter m\_winter14@hotmail.com

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

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

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

### Useful Auckland City contacts:

1. Public Transport Information (incl. 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. Information & Services of the Auckland Regional Council, phone enviroline on 0800 80 60 40 (toll free) or view [www.arc.govt.nz](http://www.arc.govt.nz). The site includes plant and animal pest fact sheets.
3. Pollution Hotline 24-hour: call free in the Auckland area on 377-3107.
4. North Shore Bird Rescue Centre; contact Sylvia Durrant on 478 8819.

**Auckland Regional Office: ph 302 0203; 302 3901**

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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 would be welcomed, 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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**KCC Newsletter  
Enclosed**