



Forest & Bird
TE REO O TE TAIAO | Giving Nature a Voice



Manawatū

BRANCH



NOVEMBER 2018

F&B NOVEMBER 2018 MONTHLY MEETING

TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2018 @ 7.30 p.m.

Palmerston North City Library, George Street entrance

Talk: "To photograph every bird in New Zealand, hear Paul Gibson's story"

Speaker: Paul Gibson, Whanganui author and bird photographer



Photo: Paul Gibson ©

White Heron

It is great pleasure to welcome Paul Gibson back to talk to F&B Manawatū and BirdsNZ. In this illustrated talk, Paul Gibson, a Whanganui birder, author and photographer, will talk about his attempt to photograph every bird in New Zealand. His endeavours have resulted in four bird books. He will speak about his recently released book – *BIRDS NZ beauty like no other - 2nd edition*, and some birding trips undertaken to gather new information for this edition. The 320 pages of the new book are full of bright colour imagery and simple text and are a pleasure to browse. Signed copies of the book will be available for any who wish to purchase.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

F&B MANAWATŪ MONTHLY TRIP - NOVEMBER 2018

Saturday, 17th or 24th November, 2018 (Date to be Confirmed)

BUSHY PARK SANCTUARY, WHANGANUI

Please register your interest in going on this trip to: Manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz
We will confirm the date soon.

It is some time since we visited Bushy Park Sanctuary and many changes and improvements have been made. We will have a guided tour around the Sanctuary and then you will have free time to explore on your own and get to know the Hihi (stitchbird) and other birds in Sanctuary.



Saddleback, N.I. Robin & Hihi photos by Paul Gibson ©

Bushy Park Sanctuary is a 245 acre remnant of some of New Zealand's finest lowland native rain forest. Bequeathed to Forest & Bird by the late GF Moore in 1962, Bush Park has been diligently cared for by a local Trust. A predator eradication programme has rid the forest of almost all pests - stoats, ferrets, weasels, possums, feral cats, hedgehogs and rats, and the culmination of this eradication programme has been the completion of a 4.8km Pest Proof Fence at the cost of \$830,000 around the entire Park.

Bushy Park Sanctuary was bequeathed to Forest & Bird by the late GF Moore in 1962. The sanctuary is a 100 hectare predator-free native bird sanctuary, set amongst one of the few patches of virgin lowland forest. According to *Ecological Management & Restoration*, the journal of The Ecological Society of Australia along with SER International, the world's premier restoration body, have ranked Bushy Park as one of Australasia's "Top 25" Restoration Projects.

Within the Bushy Park Sanctuary there are 3.4km of metalled or well-formed walking tracks throughout the forest providing easy all-weather access for visitors. Tree species include mahoe, mamaku, pukatea, rata, and rimu along with colonies of ferns and mosses. A feature of the reserve is a large northern rata *Metrosideros robusta* named Ratanui ("Big Rata"). It is estimated to be between 500 and 1000 years old and is 43 metres in height and has a girth that exceeds 11 metres.

With a wide variety of birdlife thriving in the sanctuary, on your visit you will be able to see or hear species such as bellbirds, kereru, north island robin, saddlebacks, hihi, moreporks as well as the falcon, fantail, grey warbler, mallard, pukeko, silvereye, kingfishers, and white-faced heron. The sanctuary is home to some kiwi too.

<http://www.bushyparksanctuary.org.nz/>

As well as the Sanctuary, the property also features an Edwardian-era homestead that is a Category One Heritage Building registered with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. The 22-

room homestead, designed by Charles Tilleard Natusch, includes a 33 metre long, 1.8 metre-wide hall that runs the length of the residence.

<https://www.bushypark.co.nz/>

You are able to have morning or afternoon tea and or lunch at the Homestead. If you do not wish to bring your own food.

Depart: Palmerston North at 09.00 a.m. (Sharp)

Leaders: Jorinna Prinz and Bushy Park Guides

Meet: Palmerston North: Car pool – meet on Church St, opposite Centrepont Theatre & Salvation Army Shop (on Railway land side).

If you carpool, please share petrol costs with the driver

Fitness Level: easy

What to bring: Please bring snacks, lunch, water, raincoat/warm clothes, stout footwear (it maybe wet underfoot) and walking poles if you usually use them – and do not forget your camera.

For more info & Register: Contact Jorinna Prinz –

Email: Manawatu.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz

F&B 2019 CALENDARS LAST CHANCE TO BUY YOUR F&B CALENDAR

- PRICE THE SAME AS LAST YEAR
- Short of ideas for Christmas gifts for overseas family and friends – the F&B Calendars make marvellous gifts. (these need to be mailed by mid-November)
- F&B Calendars for sale at F&B Monthly Meeting November. We can only accept cash or cheques.



OTHER NEWS

➤ Apollo Butterfly Park

Sunday 14 October

2nd Sunday of each month

Love seeing monarch butterflies flitting around Palmy? Come to this working bee, help keep the Apollo Butterfly Park looking beautiful, and the butterflies happy. Stay for a cuppa afterwards.

➤ Manawatu River Festival

Saturday 24 November 12-3pm

Bring a picnic, or grab something to eat from one of the food trucks on site, and come along for some family-friendly entertainment including kapa haka and live music. This free event is brought to you by Manawatū River Leaders' Accord partners, iwi, community groups, industry and landowners who are working together to improve the state of our river and wider catchment.

CONSULTATIONS

Changes to One Plan

The One Plan defines how the natural and physical resources of the Region, including fresh water, air, productive land and natural ecosystems, will be cared for and managed by Horizons Regional Council in partnership with Territorial Authorities and the community. The Plan is assessed and modified to adapt to new circumstances and information. Proposed Plan Change 2 (PPC2) concerns water quality improvement, especially in relation to nitrogen leaching from agricultural land. [Click the link](#) for more information, and to contact Horizons with questions or feedback.

Bees and Neonicotinoids

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is calling for information on neonicotinoid pesticides and their use in New Zealand. Neonicotinoid pesticides can impact bees and other pollinators if not used correctly. They are used in agriculture, horticulture, flea and tick treatments for pets, and home garden insecticides. The EPA is looking for information on volumes made or imported in New Zealand, toxicology and ecotoxicology, use and monitoring, as well as alternatives to neonicotinoids, their costs, effectiveness and safety. **Submissions close 30 December.**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



Your views on the next New Zealand
Biodiversity Strategy

Have your say on how New Zealand conserves its indigenous biodiversity and how we'll contribute to safeguarding biodiversity globally. Submissions close 1 February 2019.

The New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy expresses New Zealand's commitment to stem the loss of biodiversity worldwide.

Why we need a new strategy?

The current New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy is nearly 20 years old and expires in 2020.

Despite the importance of biodiversity and a range of actions under the current strategy, our management methods have not halted the decline. Over 4000 indigenous species are now threatened or at risk of extinction.

A new strategy is needed to address current issues and incorporate new approaches to managing biodiversity.

https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2018/new-zealand-biodiversity-strategy/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Whats%20up%20DOC%20October%202018&utm_content=Whats%20up%20DOC%20October%202018+CID_00f08891dd188b207cb8bd6c471809af&utm_source=Email%20newsletters&utm_term=Have%20your%20say

"Pop" goes the weasel

An unusual outbreak of weasels meant DOC researchers in Nelson had the chance to find out about this rare mustelid predator.



Weasels were detected in surprisingly high numbers after a beech mast in 2014. Photo: Medien (Wikimedia Commons).

Weasels studied during Maruia masting event

OCTOBER 25, 2018 BY **KATE GUTHRIE**

You don't hear so much about weasels. Their New Zealand distribution is patchy and their bigger mustelid relatives tend to dominate the mammal predator stories. But when there was a mast year in 2014, weasels as well as stoats turned up in the Darrell Haworth shares some of the surprising things DOC scientists learned about weasels from that outbreak in the latest DOC [Research and Development series publication](#) (No. 355) just released. beech forests of Nelson's Maruia Valley to feast on the bonanza of available rodents.

For the full article - go to:

https://predatorfreenz.org/weasel-maruia/?utm_source=PFNZ+Trust+Newsletter&utm_campaign=d2d0040025-EMAlidium=email&utm_term=0_fee93e1adc-d2d0040025-497440369&goal=0_fee93e1adc-d2d0040025-497440369&mc_cid=d2d0040025&mc_eid=64d7a0cd6c

That's all for now – hope to see you at one of our Monthly Meetings

Anthea

Anthea McClelland
Forest and Bird Manawatū Branch
Manawatu.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz

