



Forest & Bird

TE REO O TE TAIAO | *Giving Nature a Voice*

PROGRAMME JUNE - OCTOBER 2019

Talks are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of the month at **Tahunanui School Hall, Muritai Street, Tahunanui at 7.30pm**. Contributions for **sales table and raffle** are most welcome. Gold coin donation towards hall hire please.

June	1	Final planting Research Orchard Rd Property
	12	'Flying into an uncertain future' David Melville
	22	Community Planting at Orphanage Stream Delta.
July	10	Paul Bensemman 'Fight for the forests'
August	14	Craig Potton 'Encounters in Wild New Zealand'
September	6 - 8	Weekend Camp at Ngarata Homestead
	11	Martin Grinsted talk 'Caves of Mt Arthur Tablelands'
	27 - 29	Weekend camp at Rob Schuckard's
October	9	'Saving the Kakapo' Ricky-Anne Mitchell

JUNE

1st **Final planting Research Orchard Rd.**

8.30 to 4 pm. We hope to get all plants into the ground on Saturday. If planting not complete then continue on Sunday (check website) follow the Coastal Highway past the Rabbit Island turnoff, Research Orchard Rd is on your right at the top of the rise ahead, follow Research Orchard Rd down to the planting site.

Parking, ONLY if you have **four wheel drive**, drive through the gate and down to the planting area, if you DON'T have four wheel drive, you will need to either park in the small carpark leading to the Reserve below, or park well off the road. Contact Ian Price ian.price@xtra.co.nz ph 0272879203 Health and Safety require an emergency contact number when signing in.

12 **Flying into an uncertain future**

a presentation by David Melville. David has, for most of his life, worked to ensure the needs of waders and other coastal bird, both migratory and local, are adequately looked after

by councils and governments in their decision making. In recent years David has worked with Chinese authorities to stop in-filling of shorelines in the Yellow Sea where thousands of migratory birds feed on their flights to Alaska and Siberia where they breed.

22 **Community Planting at Orphanage Stream Delta.** Your chance to help Forest and Bird with support from Nelson Nature to restore this coastal habitat. Volunteers will meet at the back of the carpark at Annesbrook Church, 40 Saxton Rd, Stoke 9am - 11am. Bring a spade if you can and wear solid footwear and gloves. Contact Julie for more info 5450989

JULY

10th



**Can you name these characters?
'passionate people who changed history'**

Paul Bensemann talks about his recent book 'Fight for the Forests- how passionate people changed history'. Mapua-based author Paul Bensemann has recorded a largely untold but inspiring story in his recently-published book. He

will give an illustrated talk about these forest campaigns and the research behind the book, which was a collaboration with Nelson publishers and conservationists Robbie Burton and Craig Potton.

AUGUST

14

'Encounters in wild New Zealand' Craig Potton



A good old fashioned 35 mm slide show by Craig Potton, a Forest and Bird Ambassador and distinguished Life Member.

SEPTEMBER

6- 8

Weekend Camp at

Ngarata Homestead, Totaranui. We will be planting and doing maintenance at Hadfields Clearing near Awaroa in Abel Tasman National Park. You may see Pateke as they are breeding here. We plan to work on Friday afternoon and on Saturday with a walk on Sunday. No cost for accommodation. To arrange car sharing and register contact Julie nikau48@gmail.com



SEPTEMBER

11



'Caves of Mt Arthur Tablelands' -Martin

Grinsted talk “Caves of Mt Arthur Tablelands - the discovery, exploration and mapping of Te Mana Nui and other caves near Salisbury Lodge”.

Martin is a caver with almost 50 years experience, and is currently President of Nelson Speleological Group. He is also a volunteer for DoC, Land SAR and Red Cross Refugee Resettlement. Forest & Bird connections and they have planted and managed native bush on their land.

27 - 29

Weekend camp at Rob Schuckard's accommodation on the coast at Taipare Bay.

We are planning to clear some walking tracks that are getting a little overgrown, so bring loppers / grubber and gloves. Accommodation \$10 per night. Limited numbers. To arrange car sharing and to book contact Julie nikau48@gmail.com

Please remember EVERY Tuesday

Paremata Flats Reserve Cable Bay, every Tuesday from 9am till 3.00 pm grid search weed management of Forest and Birds ecological restoration, tools provided, bring solid footwear and be fully covered by overalls or long sleeved top and trousers. Contact Ian Price ian.price@xtra.co.nz



OCTOBER

9

Ricky-Anne Mitchell '**Saving the Kakapo**; 2018/19 Breeding season'.

Ricky-Anne was a recipient of the Andy Dennis Award in 2018, and she has been involved with the highly successful Kakapo breeding season on Whenua Hou/Codfish Island.

From the Regional Manager's Desk

Nelson/Tasman has just been through another gruelling summer, with the highest temperatures on record, a biting drought that brought native vegetation dieback across the region, a fire that destroyed not only pine forest – but native remnants as well. It was tough for biodiversity. On the heels of that we have a megamast on the way, with the biggest beech seeding event for around 45 years, fuelled by a high fruiting season for many of our podocarps and broadleaf species. This should be a cause for celebration, but with only minimal predator control, the rats are already booming –setting off a cycle of increasing rat numbers and rising stoat numbers. When the seed finally sprouts rats and stoats will both turn to our native birds, lizards and bats for prey.

Forest & Bird have been responding by strongly supporting the increased aerial 1080 response by the Department of Conservation – and calling for even more funding as over 300,000 hectares of high priority sites are missing out across the country. Locally we will see predator control across much of Kahurangi National Park and in Abel Tasman National Park (with Project Janszoon) – but Nelson Lakes National Park and Mt Richmond Forest Park both miss out. We know local groups may become overwhelmed with their trapping and we urge those involved to make sure you have a contingency plan up your sleeve – whether its increased trap clearance rates, pulsing a ground-based toxin operation, installing A24s, or changing lures. All can help. However, the large areas affected by the beech mast will

often mean that pests will be crowding in from adjacent untrapped areas. Hold in there – especially if you have any susceptible species to rats or stoats! And then use your energy to help us advocate for even more money for the Department of Conservation to halt the decline in biodiversity loss.

Which brings me to another exciting opportunity for us to make a real difference. As I write this, the Minister of Conservation (along with Cabinet) are considering the release of a discussion document for the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy. I've been involved in the national reference group, and I'm heartened that there has been a general agreement across iwi and all sectors that we need to do better. That discussion document will be coming out for comment, and we'll be calling on you for strong submissions! We'll also have the Threat Management Plan for Maui's and Hector's dolphins coming up – and for this region that will hopefully mean change from no protection to something meaningful for our local populations of Hector's dolphins. Finally, a day to celebrate was the announcement by Nelson City Council of a "climate emergency". Thanks to those in Forest & Bird who have supported this broader work through our close relationships with other groups, including 350.org, XR, and the local Carbon thinktank. What this will mean is that climate will no longer be the "nice to have" issue, but instead will help drive funding and action. The proof will be in the pudding.

So get your gumboots on, your writing pen poised, your trapping kit out, and get set for a busy winter.

Debs