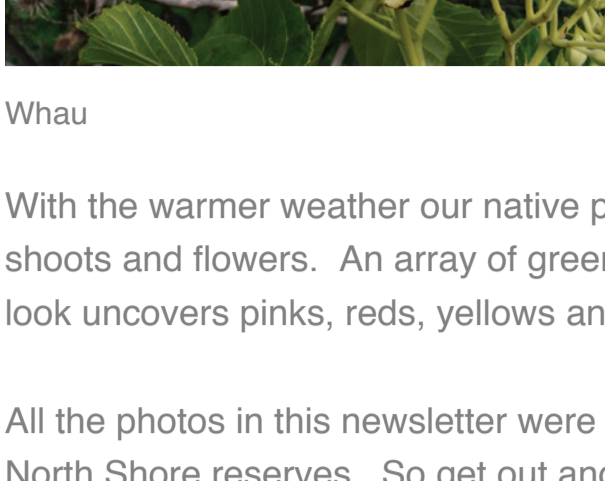




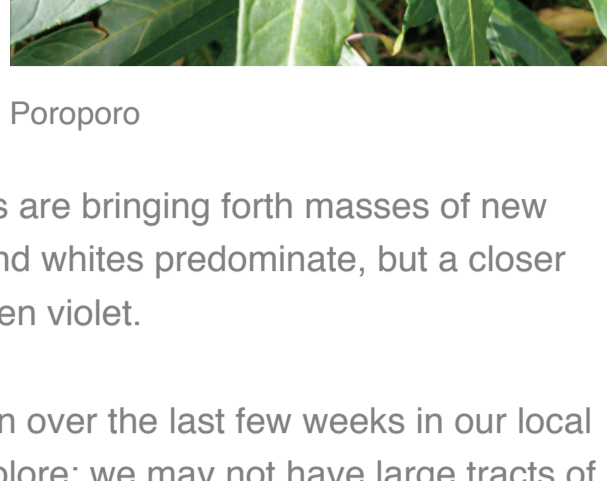
Habitat - North Shore Branch news

In Habitat this month we celebrate the flowers of spring alongside:

- Auckland Council's Urban Forest Strategy explained
- Kauri Glen Reserve walk
- The salt meadow glasswort
- Tuff Crater working bees
- Bird of the Year 2019
- And – last chance to buy 2020 calendars and diaries



Whau



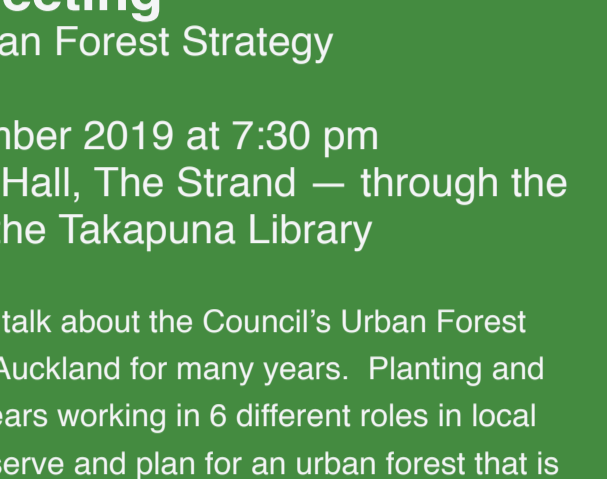
Poroporo

With the warmer weather our native plants are bringing forth masses of new shoots and flowers. An array of greens and whites predominate, but a closer look uncovers pinks, reds, yellows and even violet.

All the photos in this newsletter were taken over the last few weeks in our local North Shore reserves. So get out and explore; we may not have large tracts of forest but there are many small bush remnants still to be enjoyed.



Harakeke



Karo

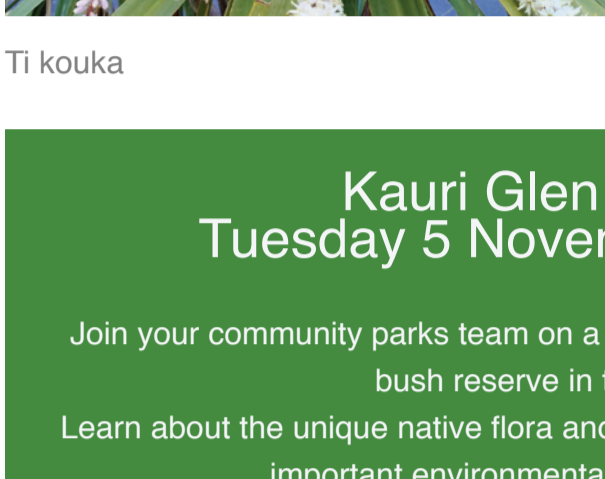
Public meeting
Auckland Council Urban Forest Strategy

When: Monday 4 November 2019 at 7:30 pm
Where: Takapuna Senior Citizens' Hall, The Strand – through the courtyard at the rear of the Takapuna Library

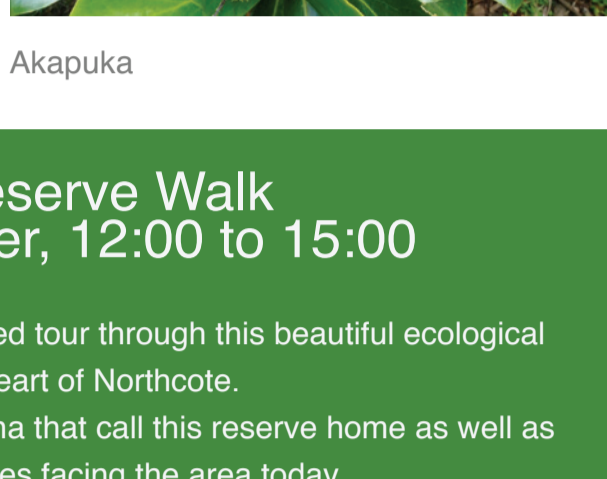
Howell Davies from Auckland Council will talk about the Council's Urban Forest Strategy. Howell has worked with trees in Auckland for many years. Planting and maintenance roles were followed by "18 years working in 6 different roles in local government helping to manage, protect preserve and plan for an urban forest that is intergenerational".

The talk is followed by supper – a good opportunity to meet the branch committee members, and to socialise with other attendees. The meeting is free and open to all including non-members, although a small koha is appreciated to cover costs.

For more information email northshore.branch@forestandbird.org.nz



Ti kouka



Akapuka

Kauri Glen Reserve Walk
Tuesday 5 November, 12:00 to 15:00

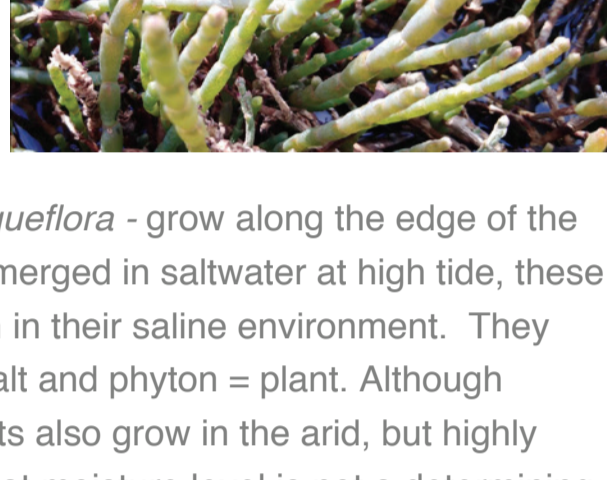
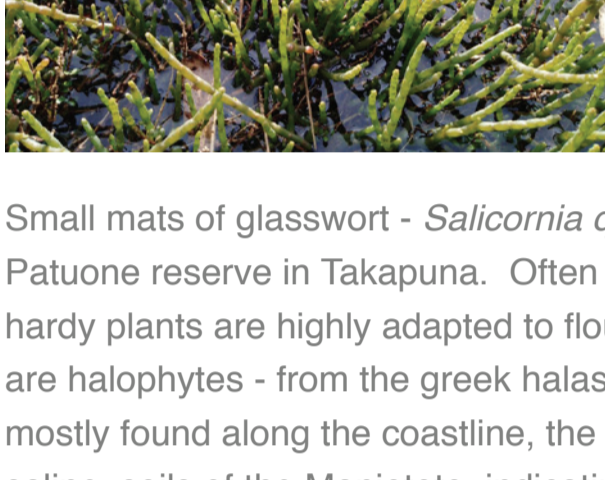
Join your community parks team on a guided tour through this beautiful ecological bush reserve in the heart of Northcote.

Learn about the unique native flora and fauna that call this reserve home as well as important environmental issues facing the area today.

A good level of fitness and mobility is required.

Limited spaces, booking are essential: please email your community ranger mylocalpark@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz to book

The hardy salt meadow glasswort Ureure



Small mats of glasswort - *Salicornia quinqueflora* - grow along the edge of the Patuone reserve in Takapuna. Often submerged in saltwater at high tide, these hardy plants are highly adapted to flourish in their saline environment. They are halophytes - from the greek halas = salt and phyton = plant. Although mostly found along the coastline, the plants also grow in the arid, but highly saline, soils of the Maniototo, indicating that moisture level is not a determining factor in their survival.

Specific adaptations allow these plants to survive where many others cannot. The high concentration of salt in their fleshy stems prevents them from losing water through osmosis, while the waxy layer on the leaves prevents burning from salt spray, and ensures that any dried salt is washed off by rain.

Although the green, photosynthetic stems appear to be leafless, there are tiny leaves fused to the stem, visible under a microscope. The equally tiny flowers, which appear in summer, are wind-pollinated.

Historically, people used to burn glasswort and use the ashes, which contain a high level of sodium carbonate, to make soap and glass, hence the plant's name.

Glassworts have an important stabilising role in the salt meadow environment, where they trap and bind sediment. Although not endemic to New Zealand – they are also found in Australia – they are common along our coastlines. Habitat destruction is the main threat to glasswort survival.

Tuff Crater working bee

We run a working bee at 9:00 am on the second Saturday of each month.

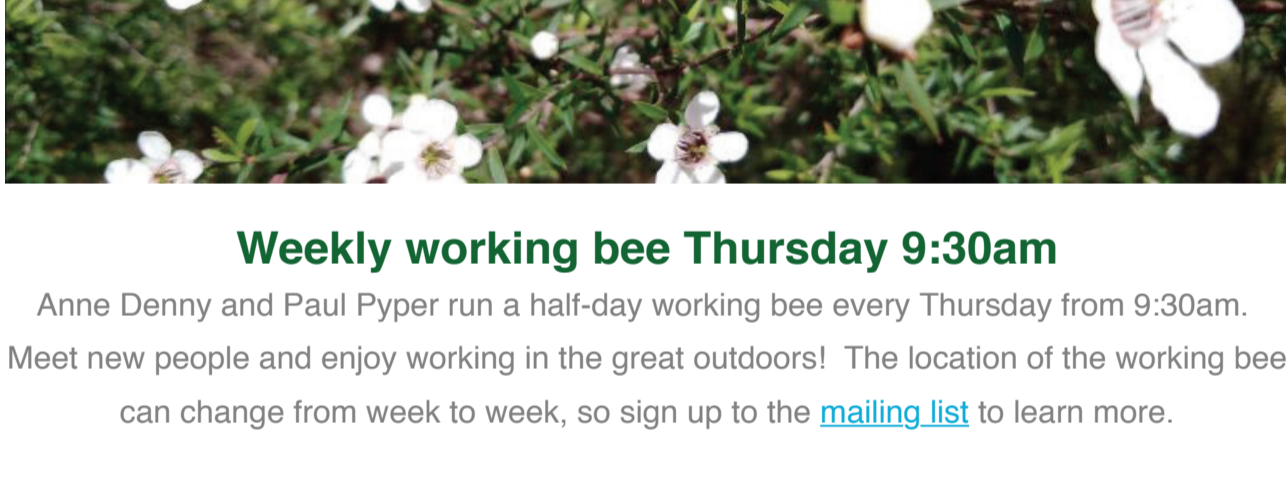
On Saturday 9 November we will be weeding around our recent plantings on the banks below the Canon building.

Meet at the Forest & Bird green container, far end, lower Warehouse carpark, Warehouse Way, Northcote, at 9:00 am.

Bring: sturdy footwear, protective clothing, a hat, some water, and gloves if you have them. We have tools you can borrow.

Morning tea: we will meet back at the container at 10:30 for coffee and a chat.

If in doubt on the day please contact Paul Pyper on 021 08429255
To receive regular updates for Tuff Crater Saturday events please join our [mailing list](#)

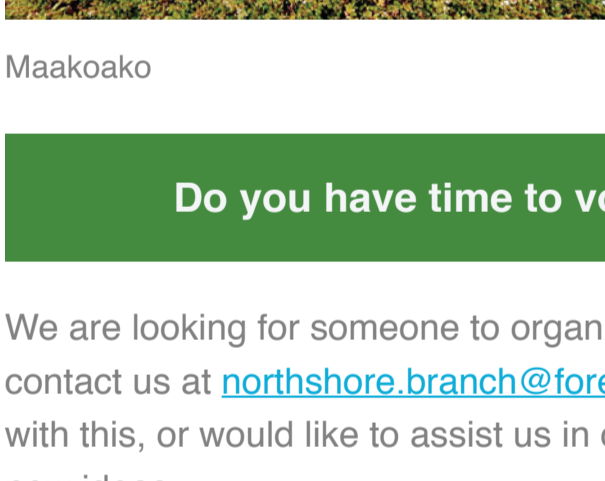


Weekly working bee Thursday 9:30am

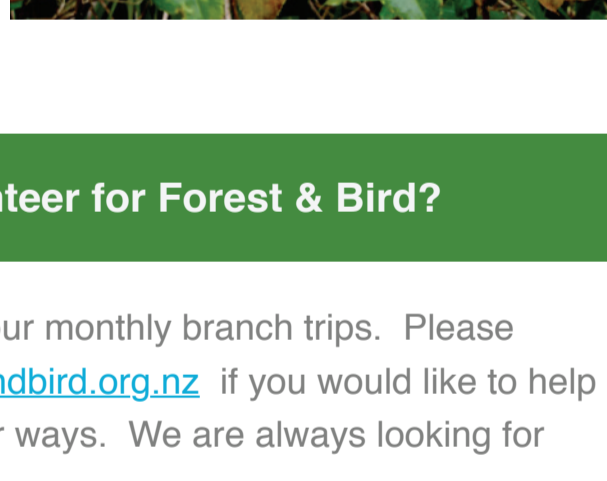
Anne Denny and Paul Pyper run a half-day working bee every Thursday from 9:30am. Meet new people and enjoy working in the great outdoors! The location of the working bee can change from week to week, so sign up to the [mailing list](#) to learn more.

For more news and information about Tuff Crater:

Join our Pest Free Tuff Crater Facebook Page [@PestFreeTuffCrater](#)



Maakoako

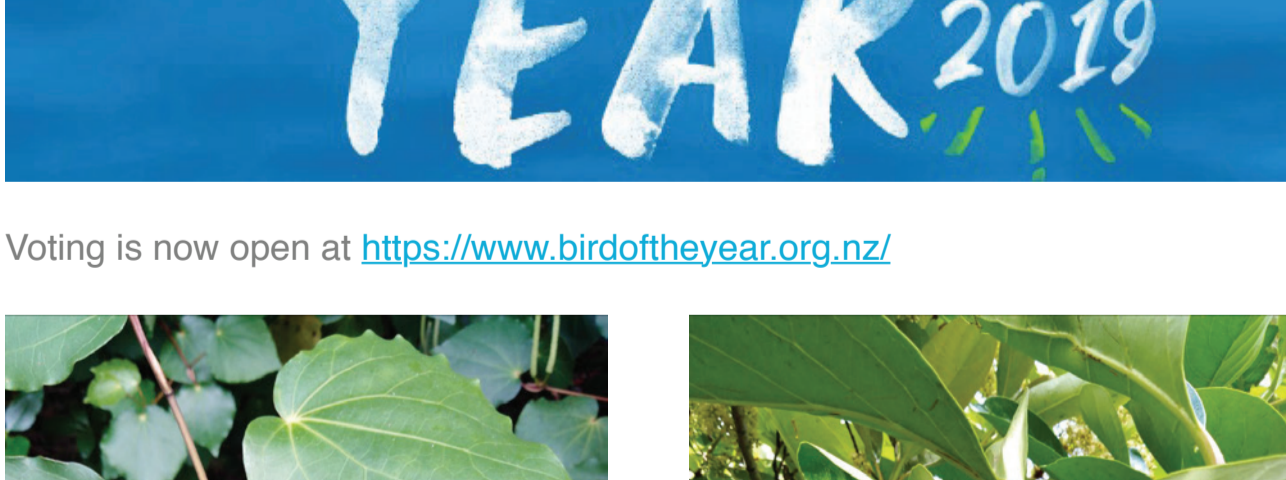


Do you have time to volunteer for Forest & Bird?

We are looking for someone to organise our monthly branch trips. Please contact us at northshore.branch@forestandbird.org.nz if you would like to help with this, or would like to assist us in other ways. We are always looking for new ideas.



We would love help with co-ordinating our branch activities, so if this sounds like you, please contact Marilyn on candmgulliver@gmail.com.



Voting is now open at <https://www.birdoftheyear.org.nz/>



Kawakawa



Karaka

2020 Calendars and diaries - last chance to buy!

New Zealand Conservation Calendar 2020
Wildlife and wilderness habitats taken by some of our leading nature photographers. Weight less than 200g for economic postage. Envelopes included.
Recommended Retail Price \$17.99
Your price \$16.00

New Zealand Conservation Diary 2020
Every week brings a new photograph of our unique landscapes, plants and wildlife. This quality weekly diary features public holidays, and a lay-flat spiral binding.
Recommended Retail Price \$24.99
Your price \$23.00

This is your last chance to save postage by purchasing at our monthly meeting on Monday 4 November at 7:30pm.

[Or you can order online here](#)

For more information email nscalendars@gmail.com

We would like to acknowledge the support of our printer, Benefitz Ltd, and our graphic designer, Marcus Zillner, for their contributions to this fundraiser.

Forest & Bird is New Zealand's independent voice for nature. Our mission is: 'To defend New Zealand's wildlife and wild places - on land and in our oceans'

