

# NurseryNews

AN UPDATE FROM THE FOREST & BIRD NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION PROJECT (HIGHBURY & WAINUIOMATA)

WINTER 2024



Just like last year, no major weather events to report so far this winter. It's been quite cold, but nothing drastic – nothing a scarf and gloves can't deal with. Potting on is the major task in the Nursery, along with sourcing seeds and seedlings in places like

Johnston Hill and Huntleigh Park. If you're interested in going on plant-sourcing trips, contact Richard ([fbnurserywn@gmail.com](mailto:fbnurserywn@gmail.com)).

The House is expected to be refurbished in the near future. The lead-based paint will be carefully removed, Chris will do some repairs to the woodwork and windows, and then it will be painted. This may cause some disruption to the Nursery operations.

## Off they go

This year's plants for distribution are gradually being collected. Here the Whitireia Restoration Group fetches a trailer full to take to good homes.



A lot of seeds were collected and sown this autumn, with a large contribution from Ben Wright. We wait to see what germinates as the weather warms up.

## The big OE

We're very sorry to say goodbye to Brittany – she's off to see the world. She has contributed greatly, not only to the Nursery but to other projects around Wellington. Her cheery presence will be missed. Have a great time, Brittany. We hope you'll be back one day.



## What a transformation!

Lynne and Marilyn have cleaned out the seed shed and they've done an amazing job. It has never been so tidy.



## Public talk: 25 years of Long Gully Bush Reserve: Wellington's Hinewai

Register at:

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2024/forest-bird-wellington-long-gully-bush-reserve-25-years/wellington>

For further information contact Richard ([fbnurserywn@gmail.com](mailto:fbnurserywn@gmail.com)) or Gary ([mistletoe1957@gmail.com](mailto:mistletoe1957@gmail.com))



The sharp-eyed among you will have noticed that the old tree behind the potting shed has been cut down, leaving a beautiful scent from the resin and eliminating the risk of damage from falling branches. The tui are probably not happy but there are plenty of other places for them to perch and squawk.

**GOOD NEWS** from Simon Kennet of Makara Peak, one of the places where our plants go. They have had six recent sightings of kiwi there. Good to know that our plants are aiding their revegetation which is in turn attracting kiwi.



Peter is back on the tools - this time dealing with some gaps where the roof, the gutters and the house meet, blocking up the hole to prevent kaka from nesting in the roof. They successfully raised a chick there last year.

## News from Wainuiomata



Left: *Coprosma tenuicaulis* (swamp coprosma). It is uncommon around Wellington but now being propagated at the F&B Wainuiomata Nursery. The photo shows a specimen that is now a metre a half tall at 3 years old.



Right: *Olearia virgata* (twiggy tree daisy). This grows in wetland areas, so doesn't mind wet feet. It is a regionally threatened plant in the Wellington region. Its propagation was a joint effort between our two nurseries. The cuttings processed and rooted at Disley Street and grown on to planting-out size by Wainuiomata Nursery.

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