



## JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

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### Message from F&B Manawātū Chair

An earlier start time for our meeting last month was a success and we hope to keep seeing you at 7pm for a cup of tea and a chat before our guest speaker comes on at 7 30 p.m. It is also a chance to encourage people who may be supporters of Forest & Bird but who have not paid a membership subscription to join our voice for nature- the challenges facing nature need your voice now more than ever before. By doing so, this will enable you to receive the F&B magazines and a newsletter from the Branch

The stronger our membership is the more influence we are able to have over decisions made affecting our conservation efforts.

Go to: [membership@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:membership@forestandbird.org.nz) for more information about F&B membership  
Regional Hui at Bushy Park - The places at the Regional Hui on 15<sup>th</sup> June for all F&B members have been filled up already. I hope that some of you got in early and managed to register in time.

That's all for this month

*Margaret*  
Chairperson

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### ""NEW LOCATION AT THE LIBRARY FOR OUR MONTHLY TALKS""

From this month's monthly talk, our meeting room location has changed at the Library - we are still holding our monthly meetings at the PN Central Library, but.... we will be on the [Mezzanine Floor just inside the main entrance](#). You will no longer be able to access the Library from the George Street entrance.

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### OUR MEETINGS ARE STREAMED VIA ZOOM

Are you aware we stream our monthly meeting, so if you are unable to make our monthly meeting, please click on the zoom link at the bottom of the meeting notice where you can hear the speaker and ask any questions you might have.

That's all for this month

## JUNE 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June @ 7.30 p.m.**

PN Central Library, Mezzanine Floor (Main entrance) \*\*Note new location\*\*

(The talk will be streamed via zoom – see below for the link)

**Talk:** “What’s so special about New Zealand’s forget-me-nots?”

**Speaker:** Dr Heidi M. Meudt, Curator Botany, Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington



Did you know that Aotearoa New Zealand is home to about 50 species of forget-me-nots, most of which are found nowhere else in the world? Te Papa Curator Botany Heidi Meudt has been studying New Zealand’s forget-me-not species (in the genus *Myosotis*) for over a decade. In this talk, she will introduce you to these amazing species, summarise some of her ongoing research to identify, name and understand them, and show you what makes each one of them special.

**Zoom Link:** <https://forestandbird-org-nz.zoom.us/j/84502280776?pwd=C4CkabwvbPenEIaefM6h5nAZQlRnUR.1>

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

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## F&B MANAWATŪ TRIP

We regret we will not have a Trip in June. We are planning the next trip in July

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## HELP NEEDED

Our committee would like someone to come forward to help us with some computer work. It would involve formatting our monthly newsletter, keeping our Facebook page updated and our Natures Voice website updated.

The content for these is written, and provided to, whoever takes on the above tasks. If you can help, please approach any of us on the Committee.

## F&B MANAWATŪ RAT TRAPPING PROJECT REPORT

This initiative has been going now since last July. About three quarters of trap owners have reported their results so far.

Some hedgehogs and mice met their demise but the rats have been the main target. Those members with DOC 200 traps have caught at least 39 rats and those with the smaller D-Rat traps have caught at least 16 rats. The traps are scattered around the city and nearby countryside.

We will follow up those trap people we haven't heard from, and if anyone wishes to return an unwanted trap, we can soon find another home for it.

You can be in touch with me on 0224731096 or [margaret51mckenzie@gmail.com](mailto:margaret51mckenzie@gmail.com)

Margaret, Project Co-ordinator

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## F&B National 2025 AGM and Council Meeting Saturday, 28 June at 9am (online)

### Notice of meeting

The 2025 Annual General Meeting of financial members of the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand will be held online from 9 – 10.10am on Saturday 28 June 2025. All members are welcome to attend.

[Please register to attend the AGM via this link](#) or by scanning the QR code below. Registrations close Saturday the 21st of June at 9pm.

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## Birds NZ June 2025 Talk Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 19:15

Val Kenward Room at the P.N. Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street.

**Speaker:** Nikki McArthur is an independent ecologist

**Talk:** A summer census of shorebirds on the braided rivers and coastline of the Manawatū/Whanganui region

Between November 2024 and January 2025 members of Birds New Zealand carried out the first ever summer census of shorebirds breeding along the rivers and coastline of the Manawatū-Whanganui region. Over several weeks, fieldworkers traversed 491 km of the region's rivers and 160 km of the Manawatū / Whanganui coastline by foot and by kayak, systematically counting all of the shorebirds that were found. In this talk, Nikki will share some of the key results from these surveys.

**Winter wader census 14-15<sup>th</sup> June.** If you are interested in participating please contact Phil Battley on [p.battley@massey.ac.nz](mailto:p.battley@massey.ac.nz)

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## NATURE TRAIL SIGN IN THE PN CITY ESPLANADE



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### Regular Working Bees – click on the link to find the dates & info Get your hands dirty!

[F&B Poutoa bush restoration](#) –

Every second Friday morning 9 – 11 a.m.

Contact: 022 473 1096 or [margaret51mckenzie@gmail.com](mailto:margaret51mckenzie@gmail.com)

[Ahimate Reserve](#)

[Dune Gardens, Foxton.](#)

[Green Corridors Summerhill](#)

Help maintain corridors of native trees.

[A Rocha Nursery](#)

Growing natives from eco-sourced seed.

[Apollo Butterfly Park](#)

Planting for Monarch butterflies, etc..

[Pit Park Roslyn](#)

A restored urban native bush habitat.

[Manawatū Estuary Trust](#) - Most Sundays

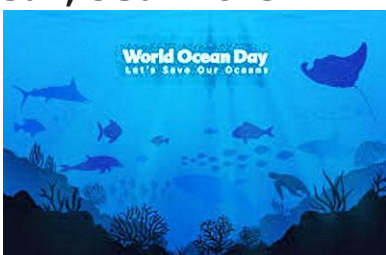
Keeping exotic species out of the wetland

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### World Ocean Day

One Ocean, One Climate, One Future – Together

**Sun, 8 Jun 2025**





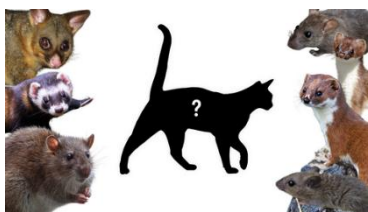
## 28 June and 6 July 2025.

This is a great way to do your bit for science, and learn more about the birds in your backyard. To find some amazing resources and to take part head [here](#) and go enjoy some time outdoors!

Go to: <https://gardenbirdssurvey.nz/take-part/>

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## Should feral cats be added to the Predator Free 2050 target species list?



What support does your community group need? These are two big questions the Department of Conservation is asking the public right now. We've made an easy submission form for you to [let them know your thoughts](#).

### Brutal truths: 7 feral cat facts

Feral cats are among the most skilled hunters in our country. Despite this, they aren't currently part of the Predator Free 2050 strategy. We think it's time to add them. But first, here are seven facts that may surprise you...

1. They exist with no relationship to humans
2. Cats don't keep rats and mice in check
3. Feral life is brutal
4. A single cat can do massive damage to native animals in just a few days
5. Cat poop can kill
6. Cats are everywhere...
7. ...except for on the Predator Free 2050 target species list

To read about the 7 facts go to:

[https://predatorfreenz.org/research/predators/brutal-truths-7-feral-cat-facts/?utm\\_source=PFNZ+Trust+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=3adb3d4287-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2025\\_05\\_23\\_03\\_08&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3adb3d4287-497440369&mc\\_cid=3adb3d4287&mc\\_eid=64d7a0cd6c](https://predatorfreenz.org/research/predators/brutal-truths-7-feral-cat-facts/?utm_source=PFNZ+Trust+Newsletter&utm_campaign=3adb3d4287-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_05_23_03_08&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3adb3d4287-497440369&mc_cid=3adb3d4287&mc_eid=64d7a0cd6c)





Ever seen a gecko in the middle of its transformation?

This little guy is shedding its old skin like a pro! Geckos are masters of disguise, often found in warm, tropical climates. They can climb walls, ceilings, and even glass!

Fun Fact: Geckos eat their shed skin to recycle nutrients and avoid leaving traces for predators.

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## OUR MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMME (July-December) IS STILL BEING PLANNED

As soon as the speakers are firmed up, we will post the programme on our website  
[www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz](http://www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz)

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That is all for this month. Hope to see you at our meeting in June 2025

Best wishes

*Anthea*

Anthea McClelland

Editor

**F&B Manawatū Branch**

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