



AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER

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OUR MEETINGS ARE STREAMED VIA ZOOM from 7.30 p.m.

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. You can join the meeting at 7.30 p.m. which is when the speaker is introduced.

AUGUST 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 12TH August from 7.00 p.m.

PN Central Library Ground Floor, George Street

**** (PLEASE NOTE: Our meetings have changed back to the Ground Floor) ****

(The talk will be streamed via zoom (@ 7.30pm) – see below for the link)

Talk: The Battle for the Plateau: Forest & Bird's Campaign to Save Denniston

Speaker: Scott Burnett, Top of the South F&B Regional Conservation Manager



Denniston Plateau is an iconic 'lost world', a biodiversity hotspot rated by DOC as one of the most ecologically valuable sites on the mainland, is facing an imminent threat. Bathurst Resources is proposing a massive 25-year open-cast coal mine, planning to use the government's controversial Fast-Track legislation to push it through with minimal public oversight. The scale of

the proposed destruction is immense, threatening to permanently obliterate unique sandstone ecosystems, ancient dwarf forests, and habitats for rare species like the great spotted kiwi and the endemic Avatar moth.

Scott Burnett is "Save Denniston campaign" lead for Forest & Bird and will explain the full context of the mining proposal and the dangers of the Fast-Track law.

The talk will start streaming at 7.30 p.m.

Zoom Link: <https://forestandbird-org-nz.zoom.us/j/84980540641?pwd=7jgMk8phI1WhLg2ZmttqtS6sJqDYQA.1>

FOREST & BIRD 2026 CALENDARS AND DIARIES (The same price as last year)



Forest & Bird
TE REO O TE TAIAO - Growing Nature & Values

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Conservation Calendar 2026



F&B Branches Retail Price
OUR PRICE \$15.00

Featuring superb photographs of our extraordinary wildlife and wilderness habitats taken by some of our leading nature photographers.

Weighs less than 200gms for economic postage. Envelope included.





Forest & Bird

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Conservation Diary 2026



F&B Branches Retail Price
OUR PRICE - \$20.00



Every week brings a new photograph of our unique landscapes, plants and wildlife.

This quality week-to-view diary features public holidays, and a lay-flat spiral binding.

Our F&B 2026 Calendars and Diaries will be on sale at the August meeting - and the Sept & Oct meetings until we sell out.

The price is the same as last year.

If you would like to pre-order please email:

manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz
and let us know what you would like and please give your phone number

Just a note, snail mail is taking a lot longer if you are mailing overseas.

FOREST & BIRD MANAWATŪ NOTE CARDS (sold in a pack of 5)

From our August Monthly Meeting we will be selling our own Note Cards.

- These will only be sold in a pack of 5 cards – see below the images on the cards
- The cost for the pack is \$10.00
- It will be cash sales only. We are not offering internet banking on the cards
- If you wish to buy a pack/s between meetings, please contact manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz

IMAGES OF THE F&B MANAWATŪ NOTE CARDS



F&B MANAWATŪ TRIP

We will not be holding a Trip in August

NATURE TRAIL SIGN IN THE PN CITY ESPLANADE



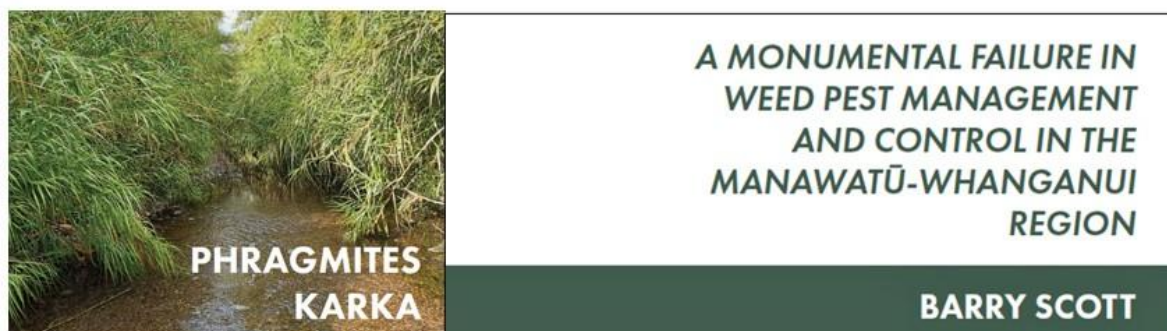
Pest Wasps : Survey

<https://www.nzbutterflies.org.nz/project/pest-wasps-survey/>



If you go outdoors in the summer you'll know about pest wasps. New Zealanders care deeply about protecting monarch butterflies and know the numbers of monarchs are being affected by these wasps. But what about other native wildlife? Over the summer of 2024-5 many people shared concerns about the damage these wasps are causing.

Vespula germanica on *Metrosideros/pohutukawa* image Mike Lusk



To read Barry Scott Report – click on link

https://www.enm.org.nz/application/files/8417/5383/9273/Phragmites_karka_FINAL_2B.pdf

From Dunedin TV station to global powerhouse: the story of NHNZ

By Eva Kershaw for Frank Film

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/dunedin-tv-station-global-powerhouse-story-nhnz>



This is an interesting story about the Natural History films in NZ – go to the link above to read the full story and below is the link to the video of the story.

It's hard to compare Dunedin to Hollywood. However, for four decades, the small, academic city in New Zealand's deep south was home to

a powerhouse of global documentary filmmaking.

Born in Dunedin's TVNZ studios in the 1970s, Natural History New Zealand - known globally as NHNZ- developed from a government-run unit to an Emmy Award-winning international producer, reflecting not only the growth of an industry, but the evolution of New Zealand's place in global media and the emergence of a strong conservation movement.

<https://youtu.be/X3PIrbe4KVE>

What's on the menu? 5 fresh lure ideas

PestFreeNZ -July 29, 2025 Ruby Fenwick



Janet and Shelley's trapping kit contains a smorgasbord of lures.

Image credit: Towards a Predator Free Taranaki

Is peanut butter not attracting predators like it used to? Let's shake things up with five lures that'll make your trap the hottest dining spot for introduced predators. With their predator buffet, two [New Plymouth trappers](#) have really upped their game and their catches. [Neighbours Janet Murdoch and Shelley Prestney](#) started off setting a rat trap in their own gardens that they baited with peanut butter. Fast forward three years and they are now master urban trappers.

Go to the link below to read the full article

https://predatorfreenz.org/stories/things-you-should-know/5-fresh-lure-ideas/?utm_source=PFNZ+Trust+Newsletter&utm_campaign=991d606818-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_08_04_12_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_991d606818-497440369&mc_cid=991d606818&mc_eid=64d7a0cd6c

SEPTEMBER 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 9th September from 7.00 p.m.

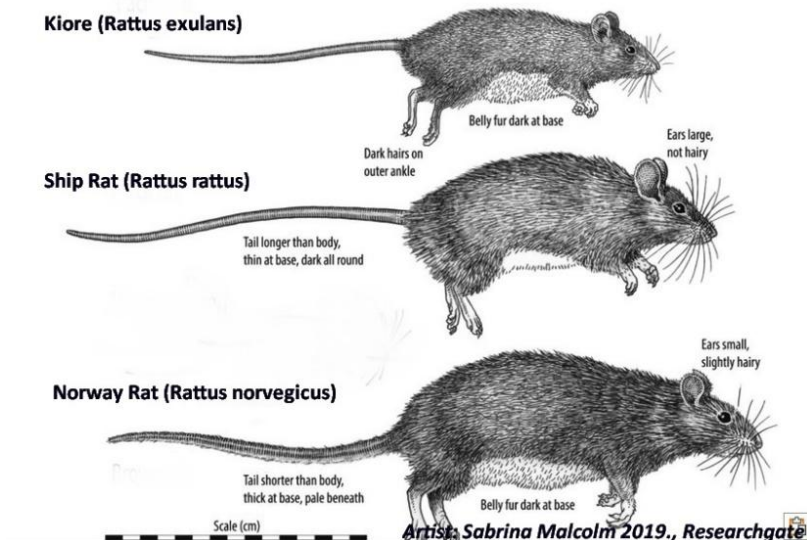
PN Central Library, Ground floor, George Street, Palmerston North

**** (PLEASE NOTE: Our meetings have changed back to the Ground Floor) ****

(The talk will be streamed via zoom (@ 7.30pm))

Talk: Reasons to kill rats"

Speakers: Professor Steve Trewick & Professor Mary Morgan Richards



Three species of rat arrived in Aotearoa with humans and quickly spread to all corners. At the same time as rats expanded, many endemic vertebrate populations went extinct. The invasive rodents compete with native predators, harbour fleas with disease and add to our carbon footprint. We talk about the ecology of rats in New Zealand forests and summarise why we kill them and who benefits from reducing their density. We are also interested in rat dispersal and their ability to tolerate high doses of anticoagulants and will talk about future studies.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

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

Best wishes

Anthea

Anthea McClelland

Editor

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