



OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Contents:

Message from F&B Manawātū Chair
October 2025 monthly talk
F&B 2026 Calendars & Diaries
F&B Note cards

BirdsNZ October 2025 talk
Miscellaneous notices
Regular working bees
November 2025 monthly talk

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.

Message from F&B Manawātū Chair

Our dedicated team of volunteers have worked consistently through a miserable winter continuing to weed and plant in the PNCC Poutoa Reserve over the Manawātū River bridge at Summerhill. This is our THIRD year and we are starting to see terrific growth of our plantings in some of the areas in the reserve.

We are working on new parts all the time and have our last planting for this year on Friday Oct 10th.

The Council have erected signage showing where our early efforts have been undertaken and there are numerous walking tracks through the Reserve between Ruapehu Drive and Summerhill Shopping Centre.

See you there
Margaret, Chairperson

OCTOBER 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 14TH October from 7.00 p.m.
PN City Library, George Street entrance

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

Talk: **Project Reef South Taranaki'** The joy and challenges from a decade of exploration and the rich life of our offshore reefs.

Speaker: **Karen Pratt, Co-project Lead, Project Reef South Taranaki**



Photos taken by members of the Project Reef Project from their website

Dive into the fascinating offshore world of South Taranaki and discover the extensive network of sub-tidal rocky reef systems. This talk will showcase stunning footage of the rich and colourful marine life these reefs support, while also reflecting on the challenges of ocean access and scuba diving in this dynamic environment.

We'll share insights into our survey work, including innovative technology that has captured day-and-night footage from a rocky reef located 11 km offshore – '*Project Reef*'.

Finally, we'll explore how the informally named *Project Reef* has surfaced in both past EPA Hearings and the current FastTrack Taranaki VTM Project.

The talk will start streaming at 7.30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://forestandbird-org-nz.zoom.us/j/83083917031?pwd=8j2yJnoa7YdSpCIbiqH6oXHP0TGTsv.1>

Meeting ID: 830 8391 7031

Passcode: 860283

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

F&B MANAWATŪ TRIP

We will not be holding a Trip in October – our next trip will be in November to Keebles Bush which is a 23 hectare protected bush reserve considered to be one of the finest remaining examples of podocarp/broadleaf lowland forest in the Manawatū.

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



This month is the last chance to buy F&B 2026 Calendars and Diaries

The price is the same as last year.

They will be on sale at the October meeting or you can order a Calendar or Diary by emailing 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)

IMAGES OF THE F&B MANAWATŪ NOTE CARDS



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

Birds NZ Manawatū meeting

Palmerston North Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street.

Date: Wednesday 15th October @ 7.15 p.m.

Speaker: Oscar Thomas

Talk: Western Pacific Odyssey: Long-tailed Mynas and Short-tailed Albatrosses

Oscar will share his experiences as a bird guide onboard Heritage Expeditions Western Pacific Odyssey voyage, and photos of the diverse range of wildlife encountered

Department of Conservation



This year's Royal Cam chick has a name - Kaewa. Which means to adventure/travel or roam. She's 500km into her travels already, heading in a northeasterly direction toward Rēkohu/Chatham Islands. Go Kaewa!

The Royal Cam live stream will be moved to a new location in November after next season's eggs have been laid. Meanwhile, you can follow Kaewa's journey via her GPS updates over on our discussion here: <https://bit.ly/3H777SV>

Wildbase Recovery Centre, PNCC Esplanade



If you are interested, please contact <https://wildbaserecovery.co.nz/help-us/volunteer/>

More than 300 birds translocated in record year for Save the Kiwi



A record year for Save the Kiwi has seen 324 birds translocated during the 2025 kiwi-handling season, and the conservation group hopes to broaden its reach in the year ahead.

In its recent 2025 Translocation Report, Save the Kiwi reported that birds had been translocated to Nelson, Wellington, Taranaki, Tongariro and Waiheke Island this year. The birds came from Kapiti Island, Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari and Pōnui Island

Further to F&B Manawatū September talk about Rats, PredatorfreeNZ published an article about rats.

All rats aren't the same: what you need to know to outsmart them

New Zealand has no native rats; the three species — ship, Norway, and kiore — arrived with early sailors. Kiore are less widespread, so this article focuses on the two species you're more likely to encounter: ship and Norway rats. For the full article go to:

<https://predatorfreenz.org/research/predators/all-rats-arent-the-same-outsmart-them/>

For more expert-backed information on how to target ship rats, check out our [species-specific guide \(PDF, 6.7 MB\)](#) and Norway rats, check out our [species-specific guide \(PDF, 3.8 MB\)](#).

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
- [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

NOVEMBER 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 11th November from 7.00 p.m.

PN City Library, George Street entrance

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

Talk: Improving translocation success – from planning, to release and beyond

Speaker: Dr. Zoe Stone, Senior Biodiversity Advisor · Horizons Regional Council

A whitehead/pōpokotea caught in a mist net awaiting translocation



NZ robin/toutouwai awaiting release after being translocated.



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Photos supplied by Horizons

Translocations have become a mainstay of conservation in Aotearoa. However, reintroductions, particularly into unfenced, mainland sites, have a high level of failure. In this talk, Dr Zoë Stone will provide a general overview of how translocations are done, what you need to consider before undertaking a translocation and some of the challenges associated with them. She'll provide a brief summary of recent research that has attempted to address some of these challenges and improve translocation outcomes, using some examples from in the region and her own research the region.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

F&B 2025 WINNER OF BIRD OF THE YEAR - Kārearea/NZ Falcon



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

Anthea

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