

NOVEMBER 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.

Message from F&B Manawātū Chair

Our committee is still ONE person short! Next year we need someone to take over from Anthea the compiling of the monthly newsletter and keeping our websites updated. Anthea has drawn up a task list and designs the monthly posters, with details of our guest speakers, which comprise a large part of the newsletter. The position requires only a couple of hours a month and a short committee meeting once a month. All enquiries are very welcome.

Our year is coming to a close and we have a fun Christmas meeting planned for December 9th. and so there may be some Christmas high jinks.

Join us to find out.

See you there
Margaret, Chairperson

IF YOU MISSED OUR OCTOBER 2025 MEETING – Project Reef South Taranaki

We have now converted the recording into a YouTube file - https://youtu.be/x4T_U8oX_cI



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

Click on the link and you can learn about "*Project Reef South Taranaki*" *The joy and challenges from a decade of exploration and the rich life of our offshore reefs.*" and - if the proposed iron sand mining in the Taranaki

Bight goes ahead, what effect it will have.

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 – see below for the link)

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.



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 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.

The talk will start streaming at 7.30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://forestandbird-org-nz.zoom.us/j/85607659191?pwd=EFJzeCQJX3BEZb0DXEIr0b8zHt5q6W.1>

Meeting ID: 856 0765 9191

Passcode: 552379

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

F&B MANAWATŪ NOVEMBER 2025 TRIP

SUNDAY 16th November 2025

GUIDED TRIP TO EXPLORE KEEBLES BUSH, MANAWATŪ



Join Forest & Bird Manawātū to visit Keeble's Bush, which is normally closed to the public. Keeble's Bush is a 23 hectare protected bush reserve considered to be one of the finest remaining examples of podocarp/broadleaf lowland forest in the Manawātū. It is privately owned and is managed by the C.T. Keeble Memorial Forest Trust for scientific purposes. Restoration efforts include weed and pest control.

You will look at the riparian strip restoration planting then into the main bush. If you want to stay on, then after lunch, you can do some hand releasing of saplings in the Woolshed or Number 4 dairy restoration planting areas. (too late in the year for planting)

WHERE: Keebles Bush, Manawātū
DATE: Sunday 16th November, 2025
DEPT. TIME: 1000 sharp
MEET & CAR POOLING FROM: Opposite Salvation Army shop,
Church St. Palmerston North

What to bring: Please bring Gumboots or sturdy boots, snacks, water, raincoat, walking stick (if you use one). Please bring your lunch if you stay to help with the hand releasing of saplings.

Type of terrain: The ground we walk over is fairly level but is rough and uneven underfoot. The bush area does not have formed tracks and there may be a stream crossing if the water is low.

Duration: The morning tour of Keebles will take about 2 hours and if you stay on after lunch to help it will be about 1½ hours.

SPACES ARE LIMITED PLEASE CONTACT ROSEMARY TO REGISTER FOR TRIP –contact:

Rosemary: 021 147 6731 or cullenrjrj@gmail.com

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

IMAGES OF THE F&B MANAWATŪ NOTE CARDS



We will be selling our Note Cards at the Monthly Meeting – see Anthea at the meeting

- 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 12th November @ 7.15 p.m.

Speaker: Phil Battley

Talk: Wader identification

Phil will prepare us for the upcoming wader census. Come along and learn how to identify and distinguish between waders common and uncommon.



Red-necked stint. Adult entering breeding plumage. Manawatu River estuary, March 2011. Image © Phil Battley by Phil Battley. Source: New Zealand Birds Online.

Summer/spring Wader count: This year the summer/spring wader count will be **Saturday 22nd November with Sunday 23rd November** as a back up if the weather plays up. Phil Battley is coordinating the wader count, so if you are interested in taking part, please contact Phil on p.battley@massey.ac.nz.

Department of Conservation

Bumper year for toroa albatross chicks taking off

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/576318/bumper-year-for-toroa-albatross-chicks-taking-off>



This year, 38 toroa chicks were successfully raised by birds at the colony and have fledged - grown strong enough to fly - and left the colony, said DOC albatross ranger Sharyn Broni. The next most successful seasons were last year and the year before, when 33 chicks fledged each year.

To read the full article – click on the link above

Wildbase Recovery Centre, PNCC Esplanade



Join the team and help connect our community with New Zealand's wildlife. As a volunteer, you'll be one of the friendly faces welcoming visitors and sharing stories about our wildlife or helping behind the scenes with the animal husbandry.

If you are interested, please contact [https://wildbaserecovery.co.nz/help-](https://wildbaserecovery.co.nz/help-us/volunteer/)

[us/volunteer/](https://wildbaserecovery.co.nz/help-us/volunteer/)

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.
- [Apollo Butterfly Park](#)
Planting for Monarch butterflies, etc..
- Growing natives from eco-sourced seed.
- [Pit Park Roslyn](#)
A restored urban native bush habitat.
- [Manawatū Estuary Trust](#) - **Most Sundays**
Keeping exotic species out of the wetland

Illustrator [Andrew James](#) outlines how the Department of Conservation is planning to respond to this summer's forecast [beech mast](#).

<https://predatorfreeNZ.org/research/predators/comic-bird-nerd-explains-1080-in-mast-year/>

But we know it's coming, and the Department of Conservation has a plan...

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/news/media-releases/2025-media-releases/doc-ramps-up-pest-control-ahead-of-major-mast/>



F&B Manawatū December 2025 Annual Social

Please bring some Christmas Treats to share

Tuesday 9th December 2025 from 7.00.pm.

PN City Library, George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: Research into Green and White Mistletoe

Speaker: Benjamin Wright, Victoria University Wellington



Green mistletoe (*Illeostylus micranthus*)



White mistletoe (*Tupeia antarctica*)

NZ has 9 native mistletoe species. Mistletoes are semiparasitic plants that photosynthesise, but rely on a host tree or shrub for water and nutrients. New Zealand mistletoes are not common and many species are in serious decline. Benjamin is doing his thesis on the propagation of mistletoes – mainly white and

green mistletoe. He is also surveying populations of these species in the greater Wellington region, noting the size and health of these populations and how they compare to past records.

The wonder of nature



New Carnivorous death ball sponge

found by the ROV *SuBastian* at 3601 metres at the Trench North dive site, east of Montagu Island.

(Montagu Island is part of the [South Sandwich Islands](#))

(Image Credit: The Nippon Foundation-Nekton Ocean Census/Schmidt Ocean Institute © 2025)

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

Anthea

Anthea McClelland
Editor, F&B Manawatū Branch
Manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz

