



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 04 January 2020

Summer picnic at the Hub with live music: Sat Feb 15th 2020, 4-8pm

Phill & Joe Simmons, Rachel Kiel-Taylor and Gina Kiel will return to celebrate the wonder of Whareroa. Phill wrote the original Whareroa song (on YouTube) which contributed to the “saving” of the land. BYO picnic or BBQ food. Parking in small paddock at farm entrance. There will be transport available from parking area at around 4pm for those who can’t walk in to the Hub (no visitor cars beyond parking area). Please come along and join us and bring your friends. (Koha towards restoration would be appreciated and a reminder - no dogs or fires at Whareroa.)

Grant of 1500 native trees from “Trees that Count” for 2020.

The year ended on a high note with the info that we were successful in our application to Trees that Count. These trees will be used in the Upper Ti Kouka to continue the work started this year. Please look at the Trees that Count website. It matches tree donors with planters and monitors the outcomes. Many thanks to Project Crimson.

DOC Community Fund grant

We can also now announce that we were successful in obtaining a grant of \$15,000 over three years for blackberry control where it threatens native bush and restoration. NgaUruora Contracting are carrying out this work and you can already see areas of cut and dead blackberry especially near Upper Bush, the upper Whareroa Stream & along the Ramaroa Stream. Many thanks to DOC.



Last working bee: Cairn releasing & progress on Whareroa's Urban Hut



Marking out for Urban Hut



Richard & Theo mowing



Miyako & Zoya releasing



Liffet, Dawn & Peter



Linda on the steep slope, flaxes from earlier planting.



Kemi & Niko discuss their Urban Hut Project

A group released plants at the Cairn and mowed the grass. Kemi & Niko marked out pile positions and introduced us to their "Roaming Hut" made of recycled materials. Bernard, Enzo & Timka surveyed the line for a less steep track up to Dell Lookout. **Many thanks to:** Liffet Stewart, Theo Barsanti, Penny Jan & Ian Redward, Peter Kentish, Sue Campbell, Richard Caldwell, Dawn Bush, Ann Evans, Linda Hill, Tom & Sienna Porter & Gene Simonlehner, Bernard, Miyako & Enzo Cammack, Zoya

& Timka Gilbert-Bukh, Rendy & Kaeshi Gunawan, Kemi & Nico & Rhea. Sandra & June popped in and the two Shanes were trapping so joined us for morning tea.



Urban Hut Club and Wellington Festival



Whareroa's lovely Hut is now done. It's just visible from the farm race, to south of the Hub. Google Urban Hut Club for more info and a nice trailer. There will be four other huts in Kapiti to find this summer which means they are making one hut a week. The others are smaller than the one at Whareroa. Kemi and Nico are working at the old Raumati South Bowls Club rooms in Glen Rd, visitors welcome. See attached pdf for instructions to find our hut – feed back invited. Mandy Hager has completed her inspiring short story "Regeneration" which will be linked to the Whareroa Hut. Wellington Festival dates will be Feb 21 to March 15.

NZTA - temporary changes at Mackays Crossing

The access off the Expressway at Mackays Crossing for traffic travelling north will be closed from Jan 13th, cars will have to go up to Poplar Ave to turn around. Bikes will still be able to get through. See attached NZTA flyer.

Invitation to June's 96th birthday picnic: Sun Jan 12th, noon, in the Dell

June would like volunteers to join her in the Dell to celebrate her birthday. She and Fred planted several kahikatea trees in the Upper Dell and this is a special spot for her. Follow the flags. BYO picnic lunch. Anyone who can't manage the walk in can have a lift from the entrance at about 11.45. Overflow parking just inside main farmgate in little paddock. No cars beyond there please.

Seasons greetings from the MTB Coastal Crew at Five Ways



First working bee for 2020: Sunday Feb 2nd 9 to noon

Xterra Festival Feb 1st – run bike swim. QEP & Whareroa

8am to 10pm organised by Kapiti couple Bengy & Gillian Barsanti

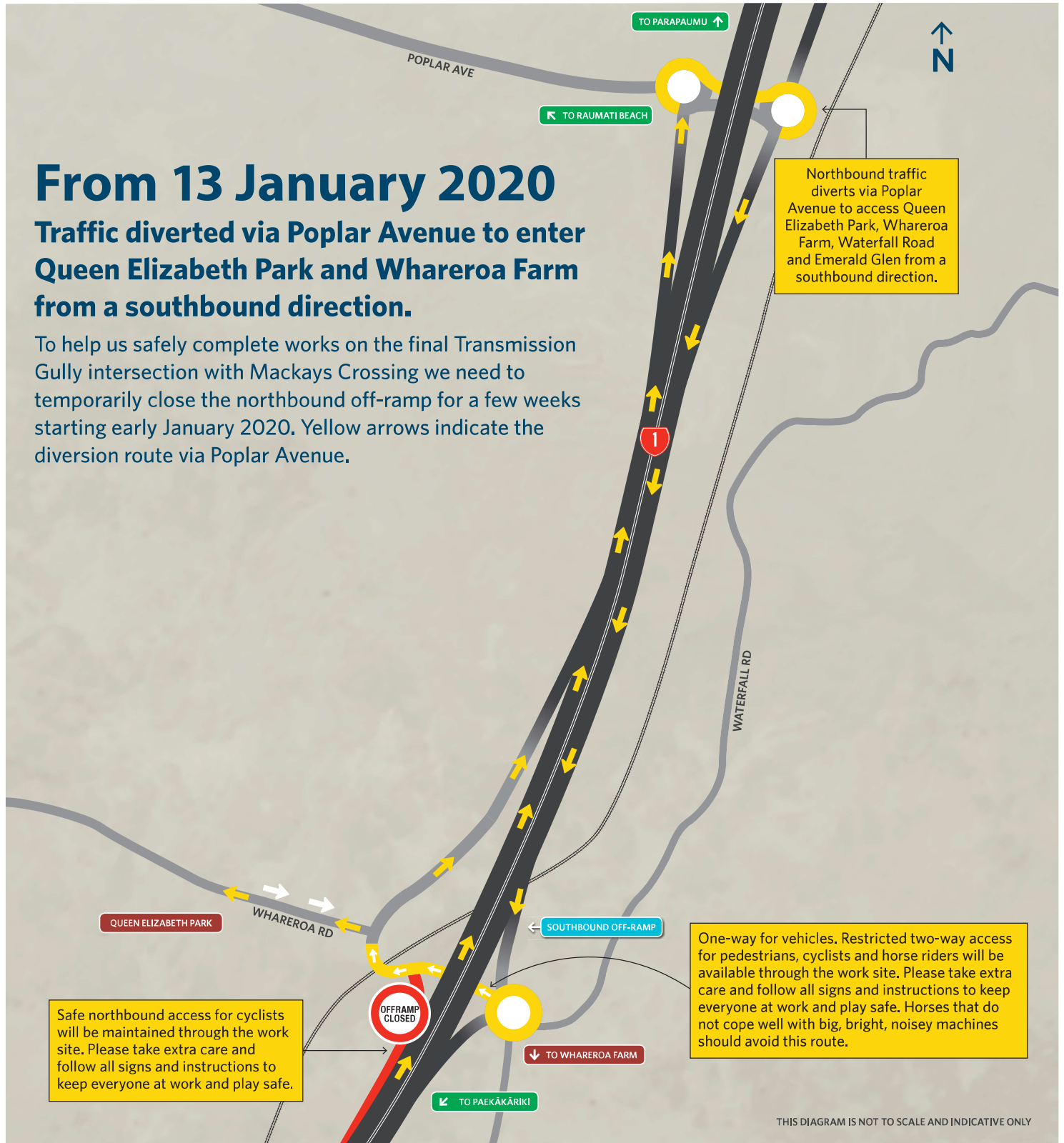
<https://xterrawellingtonfestival.co.nz>

Temporary closure Mackays Crossing northbound off-ramp

From 13 January 2020

Traffic diverted via Poplar Avenue to enter Queen Elizabeth Park and Whareroa Farm from a southbound direction.

To help us safely complete works on the final Transmission Gully intersection with Mackays Crossing we need to temporarily close the northbound off-ramp for a few weeks starting early January 2020. Yellow arrows indicate the diversion route via Poplar Avenue.





WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 30 January 2020

Next working bee Sunday Feb 2nd 9am to noon

Various jobs to be done depending upon who is available. There will be some finishing off work for the Whareroa Hut; filling the front step with soil and mowing and raking a track up the hill. Releasing is needed for this year's Upper Ti Kouka planting – there are also some thistles needing grubbing. Hand saws and strong gloves needed. All welcome, meet at Guardians' shed 9am or follow flags.

Summer picnic at the Hub with live music: Sat Feb 15th 2020, 4-8pm

Phill & Joe Simmons, Rachel Kiel-Taylor and Gina Kiel will return to celebrate the wonder of Whareroa. Please come along and join in the festivities.

**SUMMER PICNIC
AT WHAREROA FARM**

SATURDAY FEB 15th • 4 - 8pm

Parking for all vehicles at entrance
(Ten min walk to site).

BYO everything. Live music. BBQ available to cook your
food. No dogs or fires please.
(If weather is bad we will meet the following Saturday).

Phill wrote the original Whareroa song which contributed to the “saving” of the land.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cv69P_TC8_Y

BYO picnic or BBQ food. Parking in small paddock at farm entrance. Please come along and join us and bring your friends. (Koha towards restoration would be appreciated and a reminder - no dogs or fires at Whareroa.) If weather bad it will be postponed to Feb 22nd, same time.

Please pass on the attached poster to anyone you think will be interested.

Whareroa Hut and Wellington Festival



Looking down on Whareroa Hut and treasurer Lynette tries it out for size. The Urban Hut project is on track to have the five Kapiti huts set up by late February. Look out for more info in local papers or online.

Ferrets and other trapping info

Our intrepid trapping gang continue to work hard throughout the year. Their tally is now over 6000 pests. They have some new more effective traps, but the bad news is that a ferret has been caught at Whareroa. These are even worse bird killers than stoats and weasels and have been migrating south along the expressway lands. Many thanks to Shane Williamson, Darrel Sutherland, Rodney Hopkirk, Brian Solomon, Scott Hill, Shane Cave, John Rowland and Jason Bohmer. Vet Sue Blaikie does post-mortems when possible and is gathering valuable data about the mustelid population and what they have been eating.

Xterra Festival Feb 1st – run bike swim. QEP & Whareroa

8am to 10pm organised by Kapiti couple and Whareroa supporters Bengy & Gillian Barsanti. Several hundred participants have signed up – bikers and runners will be racing through Whareroa that day so keep an eye out for them and cheer them on. Event parking is in QEP.

<https://xterrawellingtonfestival.co.nz>

Whareroa Dell helps volunteer June celebrate her 96th birthday



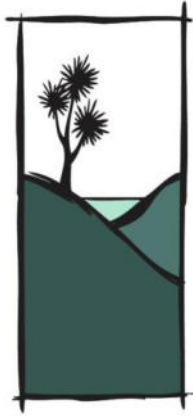
Mary & Don Beggs welcome our oldest volunteers June and Bill into the Dell



June opens the Upper Dell Loop & plants a miro tree as does young Leo Kiel with Mum Gina



Volunteering at Whareroa keeps us going!



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 13 February 2020

Reminder, Summer picnic at the Hub with live music: this Sat Feb 15th 2020, 4-8pm

Phill & Joe Simmons, Rachel Kiel-Taylor and Gina Kiel will return to celebrate the wonder of Whareroa. The forecast is good so please come along and join in the festivities.



BYO picnic or BBQ food. Parking in small paddock at farm entrance. Please come along and join us and bring your friends. (Koha towards restoration would be appreciated and a reminder - no dogs or fires at Whareroa.)

If weather bad it will be postponed to Feb 22nd, same time.

Last working bee Feb 2nd

We concentrated on getting the “Whareroa Hut” ready for official opening – Richard and Ann mowed the track up the hill with Miss Piggy and Bruce built a rock step surround. The others released Upper Ti Kouka plants – they are thriving. Ian & Richard mowed a bigger area at the Hub ready for the picnic and Bernard continued the Dell track. Blue marker poles were placed along the Ramaroa Wetland track – it now awaits signage, but people are already discovering it.



Richard & Ian mowing the Hub for picnic



Gathered around Whareroa Hut at working bee



Stone placer Bruce



Many thanks to: Rachel Calvert, Chris Paice, Susan MacDonald, Sue Campbell, Richard Caldwell, Linda Hill, Liffet, Stewart, Bruce Bulmer, Ian Redward, Bernard Cammack, Ann Evans and to Frances McMillan for catering (and to Sue & Frances for home baking).



Whareroa Hut and Wellington Festival

“Like the idea of combining nature with art? You’ll feel like a kid again as you lace up your boots and head off with the whānau in search of miniature huts hidden in urban reserves and beaches, full of stories and imagination.

Inspired by huts of rural and alpine Aotearoa, this collection of handcrafted structures await discovery along the Kāpiti Coast, from Paekākāriki to Ōtaki.

Writers Mandy Hager, Apirana Taylor, Chris Maclean and Renée have gifted each hut with its own short story.

Kāpiti Coast huts are located a short walk from carparking and railway stations and are in natural environments such as beaches and bush trails. Locating the huts may require navigating uneven terrain off track. Within the collection there are journeys suited to most moods and abilities, however wheelchair access cannot be guaranteed for all huts. More information on locations and each hut’s accessibility will be available from February 2020 on visit festival.nz/access.

An NZSL informational video will be available from 21 February 2020 at festival.nz/access.”

Invitation to Kapiti Historical Society meeting about Whareroa

Tues Feb 25th 7pm at Kapiti Uniting Church Hall, Weka Rd, Raumati. Guardians’ Secretary Ann Evans will speak about the history of Whareroa Farm – information mainly compiled by the late John Porter and from recent archeological studies. All supporters are welcome.

Next working bee Sunday Mar 3rd 9am to noon

whareroa.guardians@gmail.com for email

<https://www.facebook.com/WhareroaGuardians> Lots of additional info is posted here



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 23 February 2020

Next working bee Sunday Mar 1st 9am to noon

Various jobs to be done depending upon who is available. Likely to be around Ramaroa Wetland – more work on new track and releasing plants especially the totara avenue. Smart track signs have arrived, to be erected and picnic table to be positioned. All welcome; meet at Guardians' shed 9am or follow flags. Wear strong boots and gloves and bring hand saws. Morning tea provided.

Picnic in the Dell Feb 15th



About 50 supporters relaxed in a pleasant late afternoon/evening in the Dell. Live music by Phill Simmonds, Rachel Kiel-Taylor, Gina Kiel and friend was enhanced by the amphitheatre surround. Children explored the tracks including finding the new benches beautifully built by Dick Caldwell, now installed at the top of the Dell.

Many thanks to musicians & volunteers who worked hard preparing the site.



New benches looking down over the Upper Dell, young volunteer Iyla trying out the smaller one

Lizard sign at the Cairn



A half-sized version of the sign by the Caravan at the Cairn. A thriving young Spaniard plant growing on the bank below the dam; loved by lizards but not by humans who sit on them! About twenty were donated by Paul Callister from NgaUruora along with other lizard friendly plants.

Orchard

Several trees have fruited this summer; the plums are almost over, apples and pears still ripening. Visitors are welcome to enjoy the fruit but please take just a couple of pieces to enjoy as you wander





A lovely variety – we have resources for 3-4 more trees this winter, thanks to a grant from KCDC and coordinated by trustee Liffet. Three swan plants are also present, grown by trustee Ruby. The Monarchs haven't found them yet. We see other butterflies – coppers, blues, cabbage white and the less common forest ringlet. Also dragon flies and of course, cicadas.

Kereru feasting



Five kereru were enjoying a large crop of ngaio berries in the Dell early Thursday morning, balancing delicately, reaching out to pluck each berry – see berries in picture below.



Kapiti Historical Society talk about Whareroa – start time 7.30

Please note that this starts at 7.30pm **not** 7pm. Tues Feb 25th, Kapiti Uniting Parish Hall

Whareroa Hut urbanhutclub.nz

The Wellington Festival has started: google urbanhutclub.nz which will take you to the interactive site to find all the huts and how to find them. There is a small sign with directions in the Whareroa information bay. When you visit a hut there is a code to enter into the same site to access the special story which can be read or listened to. Have fun exploring.



The attention to detail by Kemi & Niko is impressive. This is Holly at the Hemi Matenga hut.

Caravan Logbook

The logbook is almost full, less than 2 years after opening. Another will be placed as it is interesting to see the range of visitors. Most of course are local but some from the south island and overseas – UK, Japan, China, Holland and Canada. Some nice comments, illustrations & suggestions.

Whareroa AGM Tues April 7th, 7pm Kapiti Library meeting room

Save the date. The last two AGM's were held in the lovely visitor centre at Queen Elizabeth Park but turnout was less than in previous years possibly as people felt more reluctant to venture there so we hope more will come now back in the town centre. We plan to show the short film about conservationist Hugh Wilson and Hinewai Reserve on Banks Peninsula and there will be plenty of time for networking and catching up.

April working bee Sunday April 5th, 9 to noon

whareroa.guardians@gmail.com for email

<http://www.naturespace.org.nz/groups/whareroa-guardians-community-trust-inc>

<https://www.facebook.com/WhareroaGuardians> Lots of additional info is posted here

<http://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/WhareroaG> for donations



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 26 March 2020

Our best wishes to all as we start the Lockdown. A message has come through from DOC requesting that we **not** do volunteer work during this time. See below:

Kia ora koutou,

I hope you're all doing well and keeping yourself, friends and family safe.

DOC has closed our facilities until further notice, in line with all requirements and guidance being put in place by Government to Unite Against COVID-19. This will ensure the safety of our visitors, volunteers and staff. DOC staff are not undertaking work under Alert Level 4 circumstances; we ask our community group volunteers to do the same.

We'll be in touch soon when this public health emergency is under control.

Thank you for your continued commitment to conservation. Look after yourselves, your families, your friends, and your neighbours.

Kia kaha,

*Angus Hulme-Moir
Operations Manager (Acting)
Department of Conservation
Kapiti Wellington District Office*

* * * * *

The land will still be there when this is over;
the “jobs” will be waiting for us. Thank you.

Last working bee, March 1st

A warm sunny Kapiti day saw lots of work done along Totara Ridge, cutting gorse back from around the avenue of 60 totara planted 18 months ago. Eventually another track is planned down the ridge. In the meantime, signs were erected for the new Ramaroa Wetland Track – see below.

The picnic table donated by Kapiti Joggers & Walkers is now in its permanent position alongside the track.



Richard, Liffet, Peter, Theo, Ellen, Dawn, Tom, Sienna, Bernard, Sue, Dave, Rachel, Rosemary & Penny. (+Ann)



Doesn't this look fun!



Digging post holes for new signs at Kahikatea picnic area on Ramaroa Track. Dave & Theo

Many thanks to: Penny Redward & Rosemary Robins for morning tea. Welcome to new volunteer Dave Calvert, brought along by wife Rachel who came for the first time in February. And of course, to old hands: Sienna & Tom Porter, Richard Caldwell, Peter Kentish, Sue Campbell, Ellen Soulliere, Theo Barsanti, Dawn Bush, Liffet Stewart, Bernard Cammack & Ann Evans.

Campbell's Mill Rd

A mountain biker alerted us to a concerning new sign across Campbell's Mill Rd (CMR) at the entrance to Wainui Station saying the track is closed. CMR walkway/cycleway/bridleway is administered by Kapiti Coast District Council. Liffet & Ann headed off on the LUV to check it out. See pics below. Investigation shows that there will be logging occurring over the next 1-2 year and that the road may need to be closed at times but there is NOT a blanket closure of CMR across Wainui Station. This is a public right of way. *We assume KCDC and GW will sort this out.*



Sign on gate to Wainui Station across Campbell's Mill Rd approaching from north and from the south

Catchment View Track

A bonus from the above trip was a chance to check out the top end of Catchment View Track. Gorse had grown up though the track was just passable. 30 minutes work with saw and Bamboo Buster cleared the way. People are obviously using the route; it is a great work out.



Before. Liffet lurking beyond the gorse



After

NB. The Old Dunny project is on hold. Bill Duncan and Theo have done the profiles ready for foundations. Many thanks Bill and to Peter Davis for the plans. It will happen, later this year.

Blackberry containment Project, funded by DOC Community Fund

Pete and Tony from Nga Uruora Contracting (NUCC) have worked hard over the last 6 months slashing back blackberry at various locations where it threatens restoration and native forest. The areas were sprayed twice. It was a horrible job, we appreciate their work. Follow up for the next 2 years is funded.



Along upper Whareroa Stream after slash and first spray, sprouting shows need for the 2nd spray

Keep safe and well everyone; we will see you after this is over.

whareroa.guardians@gmail.com for email

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WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 27 April 2020

Lockdown changes to Level 3 tonight.

Sadly we still cannot volunteer at Whareroa.

Alert Level 3: What it means for DOC visitors

DOC facilities and tracks

DOC huts, campgrounds and lodges will be closed and you should not undertake overnight activities.

You are still encouraged to spend time in nature. Local conservation areas, and tracks may be used providing:

- it's for low-risk activities
- 2-metre distancing is maintained
- personal contact is limited to your bubble
- activities are limited to a maximum of 3 hours, and
- any associated travel is kept local.

DOC toilets remain closed and should not be used (unless unavoidable, i.e. poo in a loo) and people should take all litter home with them.

You should not undertake higher-risk or motorised recreation activities (such as hunting, boating or four-wheel driving) in public conservation areas.

DOC will respond to any issues on public conservation land on a case by case basis and may close specific sites if needed.

For places to remain open and to ensure public safety, people must stick to the Government's guidelines outdoors, keep travel to a minimum and plan activities to avoid the need to use public bins and toilets.

New Map for Information Bay

This is at last being actively developed and we hope will emerge before long, the current one is of course rather deficient as much has changed since it was prepared in 2011.

Tom Porter

We are sad to record the death of Tom. We knew he had cancer but he still came along to working bees until a short time before his death, often with daughter Sienna. He was a quiet volunteer over the last 4 years, always happy to put his hand to any task. I recall we had to divert him from planting carex in the Ramaroa Wetland one session as he did it so quickly other volunteers would not have enough to do! Luckily another big job, removing a fence needed doing. He also regularly helped Richard with mowing. Our condolences to his family, Debbie and two daughters.



Planting a totara with Sienna, Upper Ti Kouka, June 2019

Urban Hut Project

Kemi and Nico are leaving the Kapiti Coast , their 5 mini huts remain. The ones at Whareroa, Paekakariki and HemiMatenga are intended to last – we will take over responsibility for maintenance at Whareroa. Do check out Kaitawa Reserve and Otaki Beach (north end) before the elements take them away. The stories are all very different but reflect their location.

Some words from Kemi & Nico:

All of our Kāpiti Huts were furnished with a uniquely commissioned short story written by a local writer for the NZ Festival of the Arts and the resulting stories are awesome! Below are the unique hut codes to unlock each story now! They come in digital download (PDF) and audio formats. The audio versions are particularly great, the short stories read by the authors themselves! Enjoy!

How to access: Click the hut and author name below to visit the hut page on the UHC webapp. Urbanhutclub.nz. Here you can enter the corresponding code (combo of letters and numbers) to access the Hut Fiction tab. You can read the story in the browser or scroll down to see the 'download PDF' link and the 'audio version' play button.

[Whareroa Hut \(Mandy Hagar\)](#) – CL1MBER

[Paekakariki Hut \(Apirana Taylor\)](#) – R3TREAT

[Kaitawa Hut \(Bernard Beckett\)](#) – NE5TING

[Otaki Hut \(Renee\)](#) – DUN3BUG

[Waikanae Hut \(Chris Maclean\)](#) - 7ARARUA



A reminder – kohekohe flowering. Hopefully we will see this again in June.

Planting will be delayed but WILL happen – in Upper Ti Kouka and the Dell.

NB This year is 15 years since Whareroa was “saved”. What a lot has happened since 2005.

Working Bees will restart as soon as legal. Keep Well.

whareroa.guardians@gmail.com for email

<https://www.facebook.com/WhareroaGuardians> Lots of additional info is posted here

<http://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/WhareroaG> for donations



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 28 May 2020

No working bee for June. AGM will be held soon, waiting on library meeting room date confirmation

Planting is planned to start on Sunday July 5th

Depending on the level of Covid-19 control at that time there are likely to be changes in how we manage working bees; we will give detail nearer the time.

Planting 2020 will complete Upper Ti Kouka and extend plantings by the Cairn and in Upper Dell. Last year's plants are looking excellent in Upper Ti Kouka but less good around the Cairn where hares and rabbits and occasional farm animal have chewed plants down – but quite a lot are looking fine.



Lizard friendly plants near the Cairn; this year we will plant just below the rim so that access for monitoring and releasing will be easier.

Trees that Count is the main plant donor, giving us 1500 plants this year; in addition, Barefoot Sport (who run X-Terra) have donated \$400 for plants. Many thanks to these organisations.

Closure of Wainui Station for logging – no access along Campbell’s Mill Rd to south of Whareroa for about 2 years.

As previously mentioned in this Update, there is a problem with access along Campbell’s Mill Rd through Wainui Station. Unfortunately, the line of the formed “road” does not follow the Crown Land designation; in several places the formed road crosses Wainui Station land. There will be logging of the pine forests, expected to take 2 years. This carries significant hazard with heavy trucks and machinery who might not see a person on foot or a bike. **Access to Wainui Station is no longer permitted until logging has finished.** New red signs have been erected at the entrance to Whareroa, and at the end of Maungakotukutuku Rd and at the entrance to Wainui Station.

The Guardians have explored legal implications with KDC and Walking Access Aotearoa. Both understand the huge impact this will have on recreational users, particularly bikers, runners and trampers. The best that can be offered is that if logging operations cease for a while, then KDC will change the Access Closed signs to allow access for that time. If the “Wainui Station Closed” signs are displayed, please do not proceed past the entrance to Wainui Station at boundary of Whareroa.

Lizards. Trustee Bruce Bulmer has accepted responsibility for liaising with DOC about lizard introduction. We will continue developing a suitable environment for lizards around the Cairn. Good news is that DOC is arranging to repair the damaged fence which has allowed stock to break into this area.

Houdini sheep. There are a couple of lambs who seem to be able to pass through fences, appearing on the wrong side a day after they were shepherded back through the gate. Investigation showed that they escaped from one paddock by squeezing through under a stile, they also managed to get into the Ti Kouka plantings and out by the visitor centre!



On the wrong side of the gate, waiting to re-join their friends & showing their escape route.

Milk trees (*Streblus* spp) flower for the first time



This group of trees, between Kohekohe Bush and the Gums were donated by Otari, with a view to developing a seed source for propagation.

New Sign for Information Bay

This is being actively developed by DOC and we hope will emerge before long, much has changed since the first one was prepared in 2011. Geographix have prepared a new map showing the current tracks. It was decided to rename the “Downhill Track” as “Five Ways Track” as the original name caused confusion. NB Walkers need to be aware that bikers may descend this track quite fast but the bikers must be able to stop if other users are met! Go to Nature Space to download the new map.

Track mowing

DOC have been mowing their tracks (thanks), lovely to be able to walk side by side. Helen sent this pic of Carex Valley along with a kohekohe flower spray. Not much flowering this year at Whareroa.

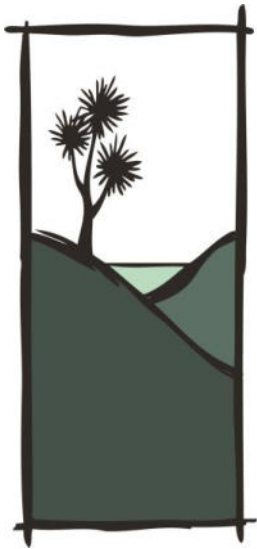


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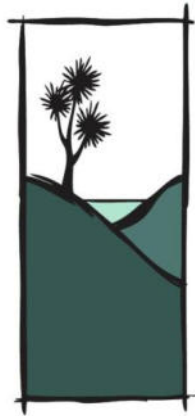
WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

PLANTING 2020

Sunday July 5th
Sunday July 19th
Sunday Aug 2nd
Sunday Aug 16th
Sunday Sept 6th

9am to noon, followed by hotdog back at the entrance shed. Follow the flags. Wear strong footwear & bring a spade.

Everyone welcome; children can play or explore.



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 14 June 2020

AGM 7pm Monday June 22nd

Paraparaumu Library Meeting Room

All supporters are invited to our 13th AGM. Our guest speakers will be Peter Handford and Keith Johnston from Paekakariki who will discuss the exciting proposals to manage the surplus Transmission Gully land to benefit the community; “Wainuiwhenua”. This is highly relevant to Whareroa as it could lead to a much larger area of reserve, restoration and pest control for South Kapiti as well as other social gains.

Three trustees’ terms expire: Liffet Stewart, Sue Blaikie and Treasurer Lynette Francis who took over from Michael Keith last year. All three are willing to stand again. If there are other candidates, a secret ballot will be held at the meeting.

Planting is planned to start on Sunday July 5th

Under Level 1, we will be able to manage planting as usual with morning tea and BBQ after. If there are changes in Level that would have to be re-addressed. Of course we all hope there won’t be. We will have about 1,800 plants to plant, starting at Upper Ti Kouka to complete the work of last year.





Last year's plants alongside one arm of the stream Tauhinau bushes already flowering

Covid Level 1 and volunteer activity

Trapping is under way again and the blackberry control group are busy working each week near the main race in "Cabbage Tree Lane". They have been checking sites of previous activity for regrowth. More "spots" for planting have been sprayed. Foundations for the "Old Dunny" should be done this month, Theo is coordinating this.

Improvement to the step at Whareroa mini hut



Bruce did a lovely job bringing up stones, lowering the step and giving it a rock base – it was getting rather muddy after rain. Lynette enjoying the improved height. Thanks Bruce. The "Whareroa hut" has certainly brought many new visitors to the reserve; lovely to see lots of families roaming.