

WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 05 February 2021

Next working bee Sun Feb 7th. 9-noon. All welcome.

We plan to release last year's plantings around the Cairn. These were focussed on lizard friendly bushes. A recent lizard survey found a couple of Northern Grass Skinks already living there. Others were found below the mini-Hut. We hope that more lizards will be moved there by DOC.

Grazing

DOC plan to let a grazing lease within the next few months, linking in with QE Park. In the meantime, some sheep may be present for a few weeks while their farm at Baring Head is treated for a rabbit plague.

Penny Redward: a sad loss to Whareroa



Penny at the first planting bee in 2007 and dealing to giant thistles

Penny died recently. Penny and Ian have been an integral part of the Whareroa Guardians volunteer group since we started. They were present at our very first planting session on May 19th 2007 and Ian dropped off a cake made by Penny for our last working bee just a month ago. On looking back through the volunteer registers, they seem to have been present at every one when they were in the country, for the last 13 years.

They took on the commitment of weedeating East Ridge Track from its opening in 2013 until a few months ago, Ian using the machine and Penny raking the cut grass off the track. They were also committed workers with the Wednesday Weeders group - meeting most weeks for the last 3 years to clear blackberry and gorse. Penny was a regular "Morning Maidens in the Mist" participant for some years – an indefatigable thistle eradicator with her sharp spade.

Penny and Ian also created some lovely rustic items – seats and benches by recycling fence posts and battens; these are scattered around the reserve in strategic places to rest and enjoy a view.

When Penny became too unwell to do physical work earlier this year, she took on coordination of the working bee caterers, involving other helpers and over the years gave us many delicious cakes and pikelets.

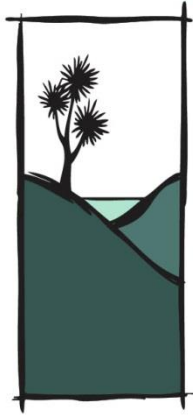
The reserve has benefitted hugely from Penny's input – and we volunteers have gained hugely from the friendship and companionship from them both. We are very pleased to have Ian as one of our trustees.

"Penny's Pond"



This zone below Matai Bush will be our next wetland restoration project; carex planting 2 years ago

Future working bee dates: Sun March 7th and possibly April 4th



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 03 March 2021

Next working bee Sun Mar. 7th. 9-noon. All welcome.

At present it is unknown whether we will be back at Covid19 Level 1 or still at Level 2 (if Level 3 the working bee is cancelled). Follow the flags and bring usual tools, strong footwear and gardening gloves. We will not provide communal morning tea in case we are still at Level 2 so please bring your own. If at Level 2 please keep 1-2 metres away from others and do not share tools.

We will be based around the Dell – releasing this year's plantings in the Dell and along East Ridge Track and generally tidying up the vegetation along the tracks. We also need to start to remove the fence wires along Carex Valley prior to this year's planting. (See later pics).

AGM Weds April 14th 7pm Paraparaumu Library meeting room

Last working bee. Sunday Feb 7th

A small but busy group released the lizard friendly bushes by the Cairn and removed gorse from the quarry face. It was a hot day, but lots was achieved. *Many thanks to: Bruce Bulmer, Dawn Bush, Richard Caldwell, Rachel Calvert, Paul Callister, Sue Campbell, Ann Evans, Linda Hill, Bill Jansen, Peter Kentish, Bernard McManus, Sandra Rowland, Ellen Soulliere, Fran Parkin & Matthew Whittaker.*





Ellen, Paul, Bernard, Dawn, Bill, Rachel, Linda, Peter, Liffet, Sue and Matt at the Cairn.

Birds recently spotted at Whareroa



Ruru, early one morning in the Dell



Baby California quail – there are at least 2 families



Swallows have taken over the Old Dunny – when the babies have flown away we will clean it up – Swallows can have it in the summer and humans in the winter.



Ngu Uruora Team have been spraying blackberry



Swamp maire in the Dell.

Forest Loop Track diversion

Due to the closure of part of Forest Loop Track, some signs will need a new location. DOC is applying for funding to put in a new bridge at the beginning of the Link Track in the Gums; the diverted Forest Loop Track now joins the Link Track.



Carex Valley fence – to be gradually removed



Link Track foreground, planting site in front and behind fence Dead grass pulled away from fence

Sheep – the hills are alive with the sound of Baa-ing

Sheep are back at Whareroa. 600+ ewes are visiting from Baring Head for a few weeks. We hope they will eat and trample down the long dry grass to reduce fire risk. They may be along the farm race and at the Hub so PLEASE leave gates as you find them – especially the small gate by the caravan. Sheep can get stuck in the grids.



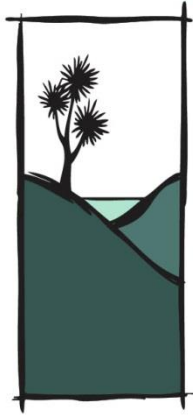
Sheep getting to know their new base



3 mown tracks: Five Ways on left (DOC), East Ridge in centre & Dell on right

Mowing – less visible volunteers

Many of the Whareroa tracks have been mown by volunteers since they were built by us. Richard Caldwell, Ian and Penny Redward and Ann Evans have maintained these tracks. DOC looks after DOC tracks only. However, we now have a new mowing enthusiast, Bruce Bulmer who has ranged much further – up to Ti Kouka and even to the Rocks. Great to have those tracks easier to use. He has also inducted 3 other mowing volunteers: Bernard and Alexander McManus and Denys Crengle. Many thanks to this new team who will be tackling the task systematically. Richard & Ann will still help out.



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 07 April 2021

Next working bee Sun April 11th. 9-noon. All welcome.

We will be based along Ramaroa and the Ramaroa Wetland tracks, trimming back overhanging bushes and flaxes and generally tidying up. Bring loppers, secateurs, hand saws and strong gloves. Some may work on moving fence battens and wire rolls from Carex Valley. Morning tea provided.

AGM Weds April 14th 7pm Paraparaumu Library meeting room

Please come and bring your ideas for the next 10 years at Whareroa. Pictures from the beginning to compare with now will be shown. The Farm Plan is due for review, looking forward to 2032.

Last working bee. Sunday Mar 7th



Great to see a group from Kapiti College's EcoAction. They have helped once or twice a year for a while, good to have that connection. Also welcome to new volunteers Denys Crengle and the Pomeroy family. Trees planted around the Dell were released, grass was tall but plants are well established. A start was made on taking down the fence going up Carex Valley prior to this winter's planting. Dead grass was scraped away and battens were removed. *Many thanks to: Kate Day, Tui Murray-Pyle, Trinity Jurgensen, Josie Hope, Catherine and Andy Day, Bruce, Leah and Luna Pomeroy, Rachel Calvert, Sue Campbell, Ann Evans, Liffet Stewart, Richard Caldwell, Bernard McManus and Denys Crengle; Sandra Rowland was working on tradescantia.*



Trapper Darrel



Denys & Bernard at the fence



Running repairs

Caravan

We were disappointed to find vandalism had reached the caravan. Glass in one window was smashed, another window was twisted off its frame and the newsletter display cabinet was damaged. Fortunately, volunteers came to the rescue. Bruce made it weatherproof and Richard C did excellent repairs. A new cabinet would have cost nearly \$300. At least the mural was not harmed. Thanks Bruce and Richard

Less visible volunteers – the pest trappers, coordinated by Shane Cave.

Without their work, bird and plant life would be immeasurably poorer.

New Traps An Outstanding Success!!

Our trappers continue on with the regular checking of our box traps which catch everything but possums, and Jason Bohmer catches possums in the winter using our DoC supplied leg hold traps. Catch numbers go up and down for reasons we can never figure out, but this year's big development is in the possums caught by our 15 new battery powered AT220 automatic resetting traps. Our 16 AT220s have killed 27 possums and 12 rats this year. One trap, just off Campbell's Mill Rd, has killed 5 possums and 2 rats. Not all 15 traps have operated all year, the last 5 only went in at the beginning of February.

The AT220 Traps

The traps are battery powered and reset themselves after an animal is killed. They are mounted on a tree so the carcasses fall to the ground as the trap resets. A short ramp is fitted under the trap so carcasses are deflected to the side when they fall.

Thanks again to the trapping team, Shane Williamson, Darrel Sutherland, Rodney Hopkirk, Jason Bohmer, John Rowland, Brian Solomon and to two new recruits, Ray Molineux (2020) and Tom Bruynel (2021). Scott Hill, who has been marooned in Switzerland by Covid, continues to maintain and develop our catch recording system. *Thanks, Shane, for these notes.*

Kereru are flocking to Whareroa



Tawa

Sue Blaikie took these pics, she saw a flock of 9 kereru above the Dell. They were eating tawa and other berries. Confirms the importance of both trapping and our planting of fruit producing natives.

Stepping stones at the new ending of Forest Loop Walk, by the Gums and lots of new seats appearing around the reserve



DOC have placed these neat stones. Richard has been making benches and Bruce has been placing them strategically along the tracks.

Carex Valley fence has now lost all its battens and wires, thanks to Denys



to

This is the site of this year's planting and a new picnic area, just after the Gums.

Campbell's Mill Rd

The saga continues: Message from KCDC on 07 April - "The recently completed logging operation which closed the road for health and safety reasons, the "Road" is now open as harvest/felling is completed. The owner of Wainui farm maintains that because the surveyed Road traverses outside of the formed route and on to private property then the public should be excluded (we understand due to the landowner's belief that risk of an accident occurring on the private property section would make the landowner liable for damages under H & S legislation). So, I understand there are still physical barriers in place at the Wainui Farm gate installed by the landowner to prevent public access.

Council believes the current management plan for Campbell's Road permits public access from Maungakotukutuku Road through to Whakatikei & Akatarawa Forest."

Mountain bikers are back using the road. Legally, there are three short sections where the road diverts from Crown Land onto private land, near the headwaters of the streams.

Trees that Count

We have been granted an additional 400 trees for this year, so now a total of 1400 from Trees that Count. We also have some trees grown from Whareroa seed. Planting will start in June.

Rotary Forest of Peace and Remembrance Planting

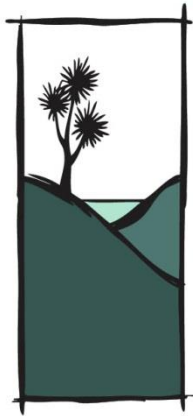
Our 75,000 tree seedlings are growing in the Good Nature nursery, to be planted this winter.

Please remember the AGM, Weds April 14th

whareroa.guardians@gmail.com for email

<https://www.facebook.com/WhareroaGuardians> Additional info is posted here

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



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 29 April 2021

Next working bee Sun May 2nd. 9-noon. All welcome.

We will be based at the Caravan/Dell. Volunteers can drive in and park by the Caravan (leave gates as you find them). We have a lot of fiddly jobs getting ready for the School Day – clearing overhanging branches along the “Vollies’ Track”, one section needs widening so some spade and shovel work and another section needs a temporary crossing across a wet area. Cleaning the Caravan and Old Dunny. Removing 4 nature signs from the closed Forest Loop track and re-erecting them using recycled fence posts. Clearing dead grass away from base of fence posts in Carex Valley so they can be sawn off at ground level. And releasing young trees. Something for everyone! Morning tea provided. Bring hand saws, secateurs and wear boots and gardening gloves

Membership renewals – these are now due – see attached. New members are also very welcome – it gives us more credibility to have a strong cohort of paid-up members. Please pay online and send us an email with your details. Thankyou to those who paid at the AGM and since.

Autumn Botany at Whareroa



Kohutuhutu at beginning of Carex Valley. NB blue pollen



Fungi along Gums Track

Last working Bee April 11th



The group tidied up the Ramaroa Wetland and Lower Ramaroa tracks – trimming back flax and bushes to keep it open, right through Ramaroa Bush. Jan worked on gorse bushes. Denys had already removed battens and wires from the fence going up Carex Valley and he and Bruce carted all the “stuff” back over the stream to be taken back to store at the entrance. Some battens are pine but some are original split totara. Welcome to new volunteer Brian. Bernard C worked on the Dell track. *Many thanks to: Bruce, Leah and Luna Pomeroy, Rachel Calvert, Sue Campbell, Ann Evans, Liffet Stewart, Bernard McManus, Brian Law, Ellen Soulliere, Bernard Cammack, Jan Nisbet, Bill Jansen, Ian Redward, Bruce Bulmer, John & Marilyn Wilson and Denys Crengle. Trappers were out in force – the two Shanes, Darrel and John Whibley.*

Our new trustee Rachel is in the front standing row, 2nd from right (blue T-shirt)

AGM held April 14th

A very pleasant evening. Chair Report is attached. A review of developments at Whareroa since it returned to public ownership with lots of photos of then and now with discussion as to how the reserve could develop in the next 10 years. Theo Barsanti has resigned as trustee. Theo has been involved since the earliest planting in 2007 and he and his landrover have given countless hours of voluntary work at Whareroa. The Guardians and the Reserve are indebted to him. Thankyou Theo. He will continue to be involved as a volunteer, in particular as one of our three bee keepers.

Trustees. Rachel Calvert was elected. She has been a regular volunteer over the last year. Two trustees: Ruby Durrant-Bush and Bruce Bulmer were re-elected for another 3 years. The Board thus comprises: Liffet Stewart, Ruby Durrant-Bush, Sue Blaikie, Ian Redward, Ann Evans, Lynette Francis, Sandra Rowland, Bruce Bulmer and Rachel Calvert plus iwi trustee Carol Reihana.

Schools Day Tues May 18th (25th cancellation day)

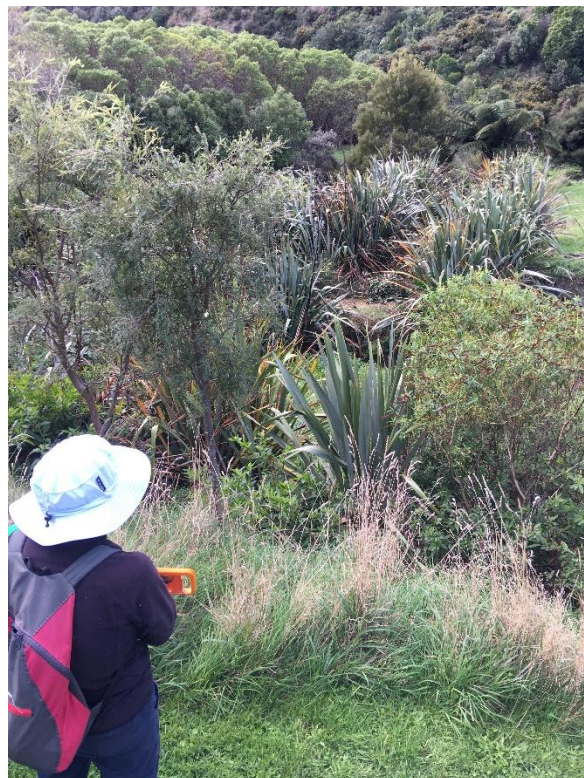
Raumati South School is sending 150 8–10-year-old students to Whareroa for an outdoor experience day. Jan Nisbet is compiling a sheet of “Things to see at Whareroa” for them to use. Thanks Jan. There will be 4 different trails to explore. Thanks to those who have already offered support. If you would like to help, phone Ann at 021 162 3559. We will work in 4 groups with teachers and parents and have “master” information sheets and maps. We will discuss at Sunday’s working bee.

Ti Kouka picnic table and other seats along track to the Rocks



Bruce has mown the grass track all the way to the Rocks, making it much easier; it is a wonderful walk. Richard built the benches and seats and Bruce and Theo transported them.

Blackberry Gang. Many hands truly make lighter work - The Jungle blackberry patch being removed is gnarly & tough - so far 36 hours of cutting canes & stacking them in the shade to prevent regrowth plus releasing over overgrown natives (particularly flax here - see photo) has taken place. We're over 50% nearer completion. Fine, sunny autumnal weather along with chirpy piwakawaka, energetic humorous company, coffee and almonds is a winning formula to beating these infestations! Many thanks to Richard Lambert, Alexander McManus, Lynette Francis, Sue Blaikie, Liffet Stewart and Dawn Bush. (And to Sue for pics and comments)



Last two years' plantings in Upper Ti Kouka Valley



These trees are now settled in well and above the grass.

Rotary Forest of Peace and Remembrance Planting

Our 75,000 tree seedlings are growing in the Ground Truth nursery, to be planted this winter.
Apology – Ground Truth was wrongly written as Good Nature in the last newsletter.

Future Dates

Sunday June 6th – working bee

Planting Dates: 1st and 3rd Sundays:

June 20,

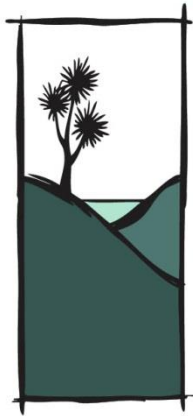
July 04 and 18,

Aug 01 and 15 and possibly into Sept.

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<https://www.facebook.com/WhareroaGuardians> Additional info is posted here

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



WHARETOA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 02 June 2021 – a mega issue

1st Planting bee Sun June 6th. 9-noon. All welcome.

As the ground is so wet, we decided to start planting now. Trees will be delivered this Thursday at 8.30am – help welcome with unloading – we hope they can be taken as far as the Gums to be close to the planting site in Carex Valley. Theo, Bruce and Denys will then move them across the stream.

The site is quite steep, mountain goats to plant along the top just below the gorse, there are places for the less agile on lower slopes. We are keen to establish a native barrier to the gorse with mahoe, coprosmas and manuka/kanuka and then plant more interesting trees lower down.

Please wear boots, bring your spades though we do have a supply. Morning tea provided but no sausages this time. We hope to restart sausage sizzle for the 2nd session on the 20th. Thanks Darrel and Bill for offers of help with catering. Follow the flags. Volunteers can drive to the Caravan but please close all gates.

Last working Bee May 2nd



Shane with a load of posts



New sign for the Taurepo in the Dell.

Many tasks were completed, Bernard C sawed down the posts in Carex Valley, Shane and Shane carted them back to the store pile. Bruce, Richard and Brian erected a crossing for the mower along the “Vollies” track – an access for volunteers along the main valley floor. Tracks were cleared.



Bernard McM and Peter K worked here. Before and after



Pomeroy family cut back overgrown vegetation. The new causeway across a swamp, built using recycled materials from the farm. The caravan and Old Dunny had a spring clean by Dawn, Donna and Susan and everyone else kept busy clearing paths ready for School Day as well as releasing trees.

Many thanks to: Susan McDonald, Donna Cherry, Catherine, Andy & Kate Day, Josie Hope, Ellen Soulliere, Rachel Calvert, Jan Nisbet, Bernard Cammack, Richard Caldwell, Ian Redward, Sue

Campbell, Peter Kentish, Brian May, Sawn Bush, Bruce Bulmer, Shane Cave, Shane Williamson, Ann Evans, Linda Hill, Bernard McManus, Bruce, Leah & Luna Pomeroy.

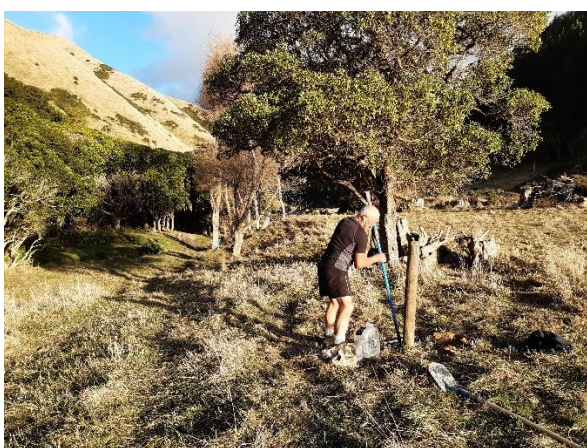


New Officials for 2021 were elected at the Trust's first meeting after the AGM

Acting Chair – Liffet Stewart, Treasurer – Lynette Francis, Secretary – Ann Evans

Horse Access to Te Ara Ramaroa

This has been under discussion for years and is at last reality. It uses the farmhouse road, access only for horses. John Rowland dug a needed post, Donna (a regular rider at Whareroa) painted the posts blue and Ann made the signs. Eventually "proper" signs may appear, courtesy of DOC but these indicate the route for now.





Donna marking posts



Horse sign by the farmhouse

New seat up by the Rocks



Bruce has been busy again – creating this wonderful seat at the highest point on the farm – 320m. Getting the materials there then building it took many hours. Thanks, Bruce, for your improvements.

Raumati South School Day May 25th

This was a great success, fortunately the weather was kind. 150 teachers plus 20+ teachers and parents descended on Whareroa. Each child did one walk in the morning, all met for lunch at the caravan and a different walk happened in the afternoon.



There were 4 trails, introducing them to “off piste” areas of the farm, looking for fungi in the bush, pulling up karaka seedlings and scattering seed balls with harakeke and ti kouka into the wetland

below the caravan. Shane and Alex talked about animal pests and trapping. *Many thanks to Jan Nisbet, Dawn Bush, Lynette Frances, Alex McManus, Sylvia Hill, Catherine Day, Liffet Stewart and Ann Evans for guiding and Shane for his demo. Jan prepared much background info.*

Other activities: Fence removal continues thanks to Denys' regular visits to Whareroa, as of course does the regular mowing and pest trapping by their teams. Ann has made more signs eg Forest Loop Track diversion. The Trustees meet regularly and keep in close touch with DOC.

Membership renewals – many thanks to those who have contributed. It is not too late!



Sheep have certainly made themselves at home. Blackberry cleared by stream at entrance picnic area. Many hours of work each week are contributed by the blackberry team – they are moving now to a patch under a totara above the Carex Valley planting site. *Thanks again to Liffet, Sue, Dawn, Alex, Lynette and Richard.*

Rotary Forest of Peace and Remembrance Planting

Spraying of spots has commenced for this huge project. Work to protect the plants from stray stock and animal pests is ongoing.

Planting Dates: 1st and 3rd Sundays in the winter: 9 to noon.

June 20,

July 04 and 18,

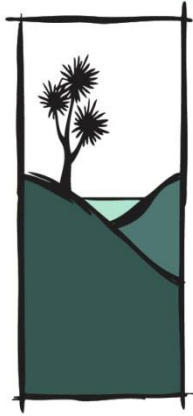
Aug 01 and 15 (if needed)

Sept 5th will be a special planting with Rotary to recognise the 75,000 trees donated for the Whareroa Forest of Peace and Remembrance.

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WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 01 July 2021

3rd Planting bee Sun July 4th, 9-noon. All welcome.

Sausage sizzle after, back at the shed. It will be cold, wear warm clothes and gloves.

All the high perimeter holes have been dug with about 40 more mahoe left to place and we are moving down the slope with mixed natives. There will be some easy access stream-side mahoe as well. A reminder: the mahoe are pot bound – a pocketknife is useful to cut away roots, these also need 3 vertical cuts through their roots before planting (use spade or knife). We will also place carpet squares – more good exercise promised! Some small scouts may join us.

Please wear boots, ground is very wet; bring your spades or grubbers though we do have some tools. Follow the flags. Volunteers can drive to the Caravan but please leave gates as you find them.

Last planting: Carex Valley, June 6th



A Further great session on June 20th, a good turn out despite moist conditions. 1000 natives have now been planted, in 2 sessions. Some carpet squares were placed. Shane buzzed around in LUV supplying planters. The ground is generally easy to dig. Some areas still quite dry, others very wet. John won the prize for longest worm. Hares have been nibbling kowhai and ti kouka, they leave lemonwood and kanuka alone. Hare repellent spray will be applied when it dries off.

In the longer term we would like to have all gorse on the path side of the stream removed or enclosed. Eventually enclosed gorse is overgrown by mahoe and it dies leaving just natives.

Lovely to have a winter's day sausage sizzle afterwards, onions were up to standard! Many thanks Darrel and Diane for taking this on.



Pot bound mahoe; if these roots aren't cut, they grow round and round and tree can later be blown over



Tricky terrain, Denys and Noel. Others on slopes behind

Many thanks to: Richard Caldwell, Ian Redward, Peter Kentish, Bruce Bulmer, Shane Williamson, Ann Evans, Linda Hill, Bernard McManus, Denys Crengle, Gary Crilley, Peter Davis, Kerry Gray, John & Sandra Rowland, Matt Whittaker, Noel Sundgren, Brian May, Liffet Stewart and welcome to new planter Dean Arthur. Thanks also to Shane and Shane and Theo who moved plants and carpet squares during the week in preparation.

Trees that Count have donated an additional 400 trees thanks to the generosity of Wellington Region donors.



Cattle pugging on soft wet soil. All cattle have now been removed from Whareroa for the winter.



July 01 Snow on Mt Wainui. The final spraying for our 75,000 trees was completed that day.



Caravan vandals strike again – leaving multiple shards of broken glass where sheep are grazing. Richard C will again do repairs. Thanks Richard



June 30th, 8am

Planting Dates: 1st and 3rd Sundays in the winter: 9 to noon.

July 18,

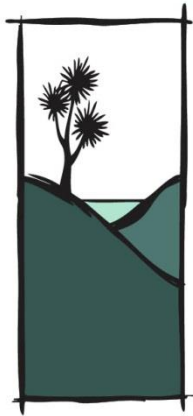
Aug 01 and 15 (if needed)

Sept 5th will be a special planting/picnic with Rotary to recognise the 75,000 trees donated for the Whareroa Forest of Peace and Remembrance.

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WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 15 July 2021

4th Planting bee Sun Aug 1st, 9-noon. All welcome.

**NB This is a change in date. Sausage sizzle after, back at the shed.
It will be cold, wear warm clothes, boots and gloves.**

Continuing in Carex Valley. Spots should be well visible by then. Progress has been so good that this may be the last big planting session of the season, apart from Sept 5th (see below).

Last planting: Carex Valley, July 4th



A Further great session, helped by an enthusiastic group of young keas and cubs with parents. 1500 natives have now been planted, in 3 sessions. More carpet squares were placed. Shane and Shane

buzzed around in LUV supplying planters with trees and Theo braved the mud supplying carpet squares. Mike brought along some Whau he had grown. We were excited to have some small totara which had been grown from Whareroa seed from the adjacent big totara.



Many thanks to: Richard Caldwell, Ian Redward, Peter Kentish, Bruce Bulmer, Shane Williamson, Ann Evans, Linda Hill, Denys Crengle, Gary Crilley, Peter Davis, Kerry Gray, John Rowland, Brian May, Liffet Stewart, Sue Campbell, Carol & Ray Molineux, Mike Bradstock, Rachel Calvert, Donna Cherry,

Michelle de la Rey, and welcome to new volunteer Janet Walker as well as members of Kapiti Cubs & Keas: David & Luke Haxton, Mark Hammond, Jack Foley, Carri & Charlie Baum, Christina, Siri & Rune John, Marcus & Fred Hopkinson, Jan, Rebecca, Ewan, Ella & Isaac Moore, Raquel Barros & James Meeres. Thanks also to Shane, Liffet, Ann and Theo who unloaded another load of 400 plants. Also, many thanks to Darrel and Diane for a good sausage and onion sizzle to round off the morning.

“Trees that Count” donated 400 more trees thanks to Wellington Region donors. These were supplied by Te Rito Nursery in Porirua who specialise in ecosourced native plants for restoration.

During recent weeks the blackberry gang have made huge advances against the Carex Valley infestations, thanks again to Sue & Alex, Liffet, Dawn, Ian, Lynette & Richard.



Zone cleared of blackberry above this year’s planting area in Carex Valley. The team has to monitor for 3 years before being sure it is clear.

Whareroa Guardians Website now live

Scott Hill, our web maestro in Switzerland has worked with Andy Mackay to set up our own website under the umbrella of the Kapiti Biodiversity Project. This is a work in progress but is now live. Please use it - feedback is welcome. Huge thanks Scott and Andy; many hours have gone into this project. There will be regular postings and links will be included in these Updates. Facebook also has them.

www.kapitibiodiversity.org.nz/whareroa

<https://www.kapitibiodiversity.org.nz/whareroa#wfr.p0.01210712>

Other stuff

Denys has been **improving the Ramaroa Wetland Track** and making it accessible for mowing along the whole length.

Wellington Botanical Society recently visited Ramaroa Bush searching for interesting specimens. Matai and milk tree seedlings were found as well as fungi. Go to this link to see their photos.

<https://inaturalist.nz/observations?nelat=->

[40.70033333468186&nelng=175.4253133308806&on=2021-07-03&photos&place_id=any&swlat=-41.01331513730917&swlng=174.8684960454562&verifiable=any](https://inaturalist.nz/observations?nelat=-40.70033333468186&nelng=175.4253133308806&on=2021-07-03&photos&place_id=any&swlat=-41.01331513730917&swlng=174.8684960454562&verifiable=any)

Orienteering at Whareroa Sunday August 15th This is a fun way to explore the terrain. Just turn up to register. Navigate from point to point – you can race but that is not essential.

More stiles to improve access and protect fences and planting

Bruce has been quietly working on these. The latest will allow us to keep the gate to the Cairn padlocked to prevent accidental open gate events. The one on the right will protect the fence between grazing and planting at the top of Mamaku Valley, off Carex Valley



Vandalism again at the Kiwi Caravan and rubbish in the car park.

We are disappointed that some people are so anti social; Rachel collected these 500 items. Police visited to take samples. Do report any suspicious activity. Police will increase their patrols. When the damaged display cabinet was removed from the wall there were dozens of ladybirds hibernating in the crevices (see pic below) Hopefully they will find a safe new home.



Future date: Sept 5th will be a special planting/picnic with Rotary to recognise the 75,000 trees planted for the Whareroa Forest of Peace and Remembrance.

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