



# WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

## Update 01 April 2022

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**Working bee this Sunday, 03 April. 9 to Noon - by popular demand**

Despite Covid being active in Kapiti, people want to come to a working bee at Whareroa. We will work around the Dell, there are lots of different jobs: clearing seedlings from under the giant totara, grubbing out a few small patches of blackberry, releasing young trees, cutting down some bigger gorse. Please bring suitable tools and your morning tea. We need to be socially distanced – wear a mask if you wish. Drive into the Hub then follow the flags. Close all gates as sheep are grazing in the Hub.



Denys mowing the Dell Terrace. Denys spends many hours mowing tracks at Whareroa. Bruce looks after the Ti Kouka/Rocks track – an epic to mow. It makes such a difference to the pleasure of walking the tracks now they are mown regularly. Thanks from us all.

## Fence Repairs

The fencer has been busy repairing fences between retired land and grazed. There have been gaps and sheep have at times been damaging plantings, both ours and the Rotary Forest of Peace and Remembrance, up on the hills. Thanks, DOC, for funding this.



Lovely to see the new battens

Rosemary McCarthy cleared her bamboo patch and produced several hundred bamboo stakes – many thanks Rosemary.

Bernard Cammack has finished the easier track down from the Dell Terrace. It was seeded last weekend, we hope rain arrives before sparrows have eaten it all.



### Another sad loss – volunteer Bill Jansen

Bill was another of our long-standing volunteers. He died recently, well into his 90's. Bill had attended working bees for many years, turning his hand to planting, track excavating and then helping with the sausage sizzles when no longer able to do the physical stuff. Our condolences to his family.



Bill with son Paul at the Caravan opening. Paul had lived in the caravan on Kapiti Island.

### Autumn is fruiting and seed time



Passiflora, Kaikomako and totara fruit and seed

**Bad news** – a ferret was trapped at Whareroa. These are even more harmful to native fauna than stoats and weasels. Postmortem showed it had recently eaten rabbit and weta.





Liffet and Theo extracted 10L honey from the hives. Numerous stings were experienced. Thank you both for your care of the bees over the year, and to Ken for experienced support.



Contractors' vehicles parking up at Whareroa getting ready for the opening of Transmission Gully on March 31<sup>st</sup>. All the cones and barriers had to be removed at dead of night to avoid queues developing. Whareroa is now much closer to Wellington and the Hutt.

**Keep enjoying Whareroa and we look forward to meeting up again soon.**

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