

NEWSLETTER

Our Mission: To enrich the community through the restoration and guardianship of an indigenous Marlborough Sounds wildlife sanctuary, in which the natural ecosystems, native flora and fauna flourish in a predator-free environment that can be appreciated by all.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

As you read this newsletter several things will become very obvious. How very reliant the good work that is being achieved on Kaipupu Point is dependent on the support of the many local companies and funding agencies that support our vision. We must also recognise the great work undertaken by our many volunteers that are involved in pest control, maintaining facilities, and providing guiding services, whether it is to adult visitors or our local school children. Let us not forget the green fingered among us that propagate plants for both funding and educational reasons. In whatever form you provide effort I would like to thank you most sincerely and hope you enjoy your association with the Kaipupu Mainland Island.. Remember, you can become more involved with the AGM scheduled on the 25th June when the election of committee members for the 2017/18 is undertaken. Without funding from our many sponsors and contributors we would not be able to undertake our vision which is for the benefit of both the community and the endangered species that can be found on Kaipupu. The success of our funding

can be summarised by the facts that our community believes in our aspirations plus the skills of our part time contractors Rachel and Trudy. They record the results of the work undertaken by volunteers and convert this information into funding applications. The results of their efforts means there is now \$10,000 available to undertake weed control. Rachel's photographic skills are clearly visible in this and earlier newsletters.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome several guests to the Kaipupu Family. Firstly we have several Rowi Kiwi chicks in our care and for this reason our pest control operation is so important. The second welcome is to Dan Palmer who has agreed to join the committee until the AGM and provide endangered species advice. Dan has for many years been involved in the management of endangered species and works for the Department of Conservation in Picton. Dan has indicated he would consider standing for the committee in his own right.

Robin Cox
Acting Chairperson

JUNE 2017

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Everyone welcome. Our guest speaker Eric Jorgenson will talk about conservation in the Marlborough Sounds.

WHERE: Port Marlborough Pavilion, Endeavour Park

WHEN: 2pm, Sunday 25th June

For more information please contact Rachel:

admin@kaipupupoint.co.nz
027 692 3488

'THE MOST MELODIUS WILD MUSICK'

When is the best time to visit Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary to see and hear the native birds that call it home?

One of the most common questions we get asked is when is the best time to visit the Sanctuary. The simple answer is anytime, but if you want to increase your chances of seeing or hearing our native birds then time of the year and time of day are important.

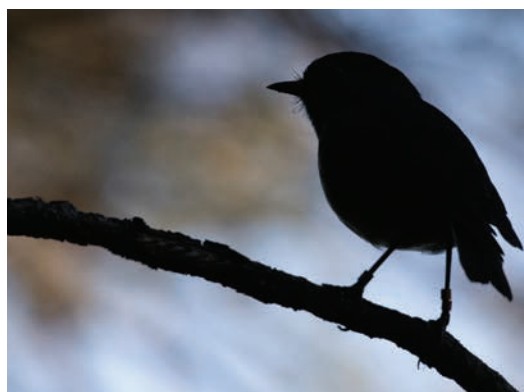
As Joseph Banks discovered in 1770, dawn is when our native birds like to sing and although the dawn chorus may have dampened since then, it is the perfect time of day to get up and listen to our native birds demonstrate their singing prowess. Alternatively, dusk provides another opportunity to hear korimako (bellbird) or tui explore their vocal range, at this time of day their songs carry further as the world around them quiets.

Like humans, birds use song to communicate. In spring and early summer, calls are used during courtship to attract mates, bird song

may act as an audible sign of health, with the strongest singers offering the best chance of producing healthy and strong offspring. Song may also be used during this time of year to strengthen pair bonds and for young chicks it is an opportunity to learn the adult songs. In winter, songs define territories, they warn other birds that this spot is taken. Throughout the year birds use vocalisations for other purposes, for example calls may alert other birds that a predator is near.

At Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary, five minute bird counts help us to evaluate the success of our pest control programme. These counts use song, calls and sightings to estimate population numbers of the different bird species. So far, bellbirds are the only species to show a significant increase, with almost four times as many bellbirds counted in 2015 compared to 2012.

The key to seeing or hearing birds at Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary is to allow plenty of time. If you sit for a while the birds will often come to you. Kakaruai (South Island robin) and piwakawaka (fantail) will follow you as you walk, disturbing insects for them to eat. At this time of year, tui and korimako are often seen in the manuka or beech trees drinking nectar. Look high in the canopy for scarlett rata in June and you will also find them. Groups of tauhou (Silvereye) are enjoying the abundance of fruit on five finger and kereru will surprise you with their loud wing beats as they fly from tree to tree to discover more fruit to eat. Learning their calls will also help you get the most out of your visit, the New Zealand Birds Online website (www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz) has lots of great information and plenty of examples of their calls.



TELL US ABOUT YOUR VISIT

We want to hear all about your visit to Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary. Visit our tripadvisor listing and let everyone know about us too. Visit www.tripadvisor.co.nz and search Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary.



GETTING ACTIVE AT KAIPUPU

The stillness of a clear, crisp autumn day at the Sanctuary was interrupted only by the sound of Beachcomber Cruises arriving with a group of keen dads and their children from Marlborough Active Dads. Led by experienced educator Andrew John, the group placed weta motels on trees along the main track and planted native trees grown by Andrew. As the group walked around the main track they checked under the

Onduline roofing tiles for insects and lizards, discovering many skinks warming themselves before heading out for the day. As part of the Sanctuary tour, Andrew talked about the pest control and restoration work being undertaken by our volunteers. Thank you Active Dads for visiting Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary, we hope you will come back check the weta motels for inhabitants soon.





A REALLY WEEDY PROBLEM

Like stoat, possum and rodents, weeds are a huge problem across New Zealand and Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary is no exception. The main track is well maintained and relatively free of weeds but many other areas have patches of old man's beard, broom and sycamore. So why are weeds such a problem.

Weeds are plants in the wrong place according to the Department of Conservation War on Weeds programme. Their list of 13 weed species includes those which are the biggest threats to our native forest ecosystems. Number one on the list is wilding conifers (pine). Other species include English ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, banana passionfruit and old man's beard. All of these plants threaten the biodiversity of our native forests by strangling and smothering the native trees that they grow on or around.

To say that all weed species are bad is not totally true, gorse is one weed that actually helps our native plants by providing shelter, with just enough light and space for young native plants to grow and establish. Gorse also enriches the soil through its nitrogen fixing qualities, nitrogen is collected from the air and distributed into the soil. As the native plants grow, a dense canopy forms that restricts the growth of the gorse and it eventually dies off.

Putting gorse aside, we still have a mammoth task ahead of us. To rid Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary of weeds we need help. Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the WWF Habitat Restoration Fund we plan to develop a weed control programme. Initially we aim to employ a contractor to help get us started but in the long term we hope to train up a team of volunteers who will monitor

and remove weeds across the Sanctuary. We already have a list of keen weed destroyers but we always need more so if you are interested in becoming a weed control volunteer please contact us at admin@kaipupupoint.co.nz or pop into the Kaipupu shop in Mariners Mall for a chat.

For more information about DOC's War on Weeds visit www.doc.govt.nz/waronweeds

REWARD

\$100 CASH

For sightings of the Dirty Dozen
Log on to NautreWatchNZ or
download the iNaturalist app
Join the Dirty Dozen project

Make an observation before
AUGUST 30TH 2017

You're entered in the draw
TO WIN A \$100 REWARD!

For more information visit our website.
www.doc.govt.nz and search
"Dirty Dozen competition 2017"

DIRTY DOZEN WEEDS 2017

WAR*ON*WEEDS

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Ataturu

NatureWatch NZ

PLANT SALE SUCCESS

Each year our autumn and spring plant sale is well attended and it is not surprising with the huge range of plants grown locally by Nozz Fletcher and Robert Davies at the PowerHouse Reserve. With the help of volunteers who staffed the shop we have raised over \$1200 at our 2017 autumn plant sale.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Nozz and Robert for all the work that they put into growing these plants throughout the year. We would also like to thank Carey at the PowerHouse Reserve for his help and support of this project.

If you missed out on buying a plant or trailer load of plants for your garden you can always visit the nursery on Wednesday afternoon and Saturday morning.



GREEN THUMBED VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Further to our call for volunteers. The Picton PowerHouse Trust nursery is the main provider of plants for our biennial sales. Nozz is looking for help (phone 5737226). If anyone can give an hour or so of their time - any time - but particularly Wednesday afternoons or Saturday mornings, that would be greatly appreciated.

In return volunteers can, if they want to, do their

own propagating using the PowerHouse pots and potting mix in exchange for labour or koha. Advice on propagation, cuttings etc. if needed, will be available. We have a great selection of hebes, olearia, griselina etc. on site plus herbs like rosemary which you're welcome to use. If you have native seedlings - particularly pittosporum tenuifolium (kohuhu) we would love them.

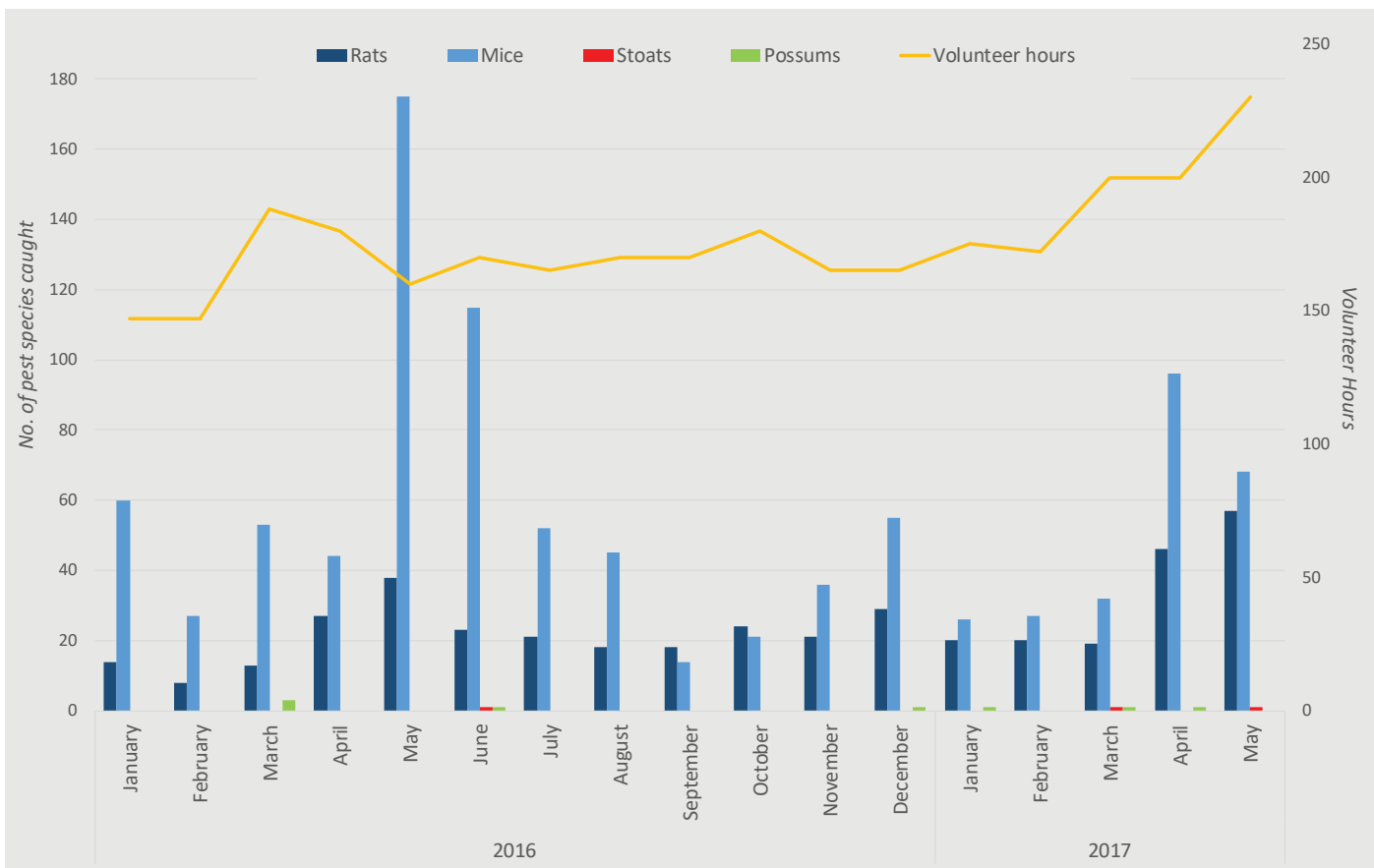


TUI TEE

The Paper Rain Project x Indigo Greenlaw

This hand-drawn design is screen printed on fairly traded organic cotton. This CAUSE tee will give a donation from every sale to Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary.

To get one of your very own visit The Paper Rain Project shop in High Street, Picton or buy online at: www.thepaperrainproject.co.nz



THOSE PESKY PESTS

Pest monitoring in the sanctuary continues with reliable input from volunteers. Their work is being eased with the completion of the new horizontal traps which will allow the worst of the vertical tracks to be closed.

Despite the best efforts of the volunteers, the number of rats being caught is disappointingly high. A weasel and a stoat have also been recently caught. It is

difficult to identify where these predators are coming from, but suspicion is being raised that they are swimming around the western fence, or from the Wedge. Mouse numbers are satisfactorily down; the assumption is that we are dealing mostly with a resident population.

Sightings of robins residing in the reserve are very pleasing to volunteers, as are our nesting penguins and kiwi tracks in the sand traps.

James Wilson



KAIPUPU SHOP

The shop is open four days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday) from 9am until 3pm. There is a great range of products that help support the Sanctuary as well as informative displays.

Find us in Mariners Mall.

PICTON DAWN CHORUS PROTECTING THE HALO



Picton Dawn Chorus are working hard to get the whole community on board in creating a halo around the natural gem that is Kaipupu Point. This halo will be important to both reduce the number of pests re-invading the Sanctuary and also create additional safe habitat for any birds that spill over in to the town and its reserves.

We are very pleased to announce that Kiwibank are providing a second grant to allow us to heavily subsidise traps for gardens in the Picton Dawn Chorus project area! This time, we will be able to sell the traps from our “pop-up” shop, which will open on Thursday 15 June at 21 Wellington Street (Next to Kiwi Takeaways). A flyer will be arriving in your letter box soon with all the details and you will be able to find more details on our website! Goodnature traps will be for sale for \$85 (normally \$160) and Goodnature are kindly donating counters again with every A24 rat trap. Boxed rat traps will be for sale for \$10 (normally \$20). We have a limited number of traps at these Kiwibank subsidised prices, so be ready for the opening in June!

Communities all over the country are now stepping up their urban predator control efforts. Did you know that Wellington has several suburbs that are rat free, or which are well on their way to being rat free? Wouldn't it be great if Picton could be rat free too? And, if protecting our native birds isn't enough of a reason for you to bother trapping, have a think about this:

This winter is the third most year in a row. That means that high seed production has provided a bumper food source for rodents and their numbers are extremely high. However, as the natural food source declines again with the onset of winter, rats and mice are looking for warmth and alternative food sources. This is when they are more likely to move in to your house, garage or even car. If they get in to your house they will target wires and pipes and can cause extensive (and often unseen) damage. And the chances are, that a standard household insurance policy will not cover the cost of rodent damage! So, if you haven't already got a trap – make sure you get one. Then keep it set and baited! You will be doing yourself, your neighbours and the birds a favour.

***Contributed by Siobain Browning
Picton Dawn Chorus coordinator***



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HOMEMADE MOUSE TRAP



1. Cut off the top of a 1 litre milk bottle or So Good container or juice bottle
2. Place the set trap in the container facing outwards and push in a distance - not at the edge as shown.

Probably would work for rats using a 2 litre container + rat trap.

Useful way to avoid kids and pets getting caught. Also, this makes sure the mouse approaches the trap head-on and is killed quickly.

Contributed by Andrew John

KAIPUPU KIDS PAGE

The silvereye or tauhou can be seen eating berries from the five finger tree on the Sanctuary, to encourage them into your garden you can make a pine cone feeder (see below). Use lard or peanut butter to fill the gaps in the pine cone then roll it in seeds (wild bird seed mixes are great for this). Hang it from a tree and watch the silvereye enjoy a winter treat.



COLOUR THE SILVEREYE / TAUHOU



S A A U F R E H C T A C R E T S Y O A L C N
 O K S T U I B U S H M A N S F R I E N D R Q
 U B I Y T W T V P I W A K A W A K A T Y A K
 T Y B Q E I D T O R E A M W T Y B E N O N V
 Y C E F E K F D F G J U N K O R O R A I G I
 I V L D R I A S K A W A K A W A C M K N I Y
 S F L T A W A D R I B L L E B K N S R B O L
 L D B K V O F B T S K E R Y U E H F A V R O
 A H I E K R A N G I O R A T U A K J R C A P
 N I R K L A N D R I R O T H E K L W K X W E
 Z A D E I B T G N H I Y K A R E A R E A O M
 R U B N M N A K O J M A N U K A M V E R O O
 O R R O U P I A C K A F O V X E U O U T D K
 B A K Q Y T L I L L K D Z R O C R R B L P O
 I K T A U H O U A M O L I O W N E I E A I M
 N A S A B N C T F U R A Y R Z O R R E E G O
 E K R Z C L E Y E R E V L I S C E O C S E K
 H C T G R E Y W A R B L E R M L K R H R O O
 N I U G N E P E U L B E L T T I L I A U N R
 U A T E W T E A T R E E K A I F P R U F P U
 C L K I O H N I B O R D N A L S I H T U O S

WILDLIFE WORD FIND

Can you find all the names of these plants and animals? Some of them are known by both Maori and English names, can you match them?

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Tui | Falcon |
| Korimako | Fantail |
| Manuka | Kakaruai |
| Rowi kiwi | Tawa |
| Kereru | Little Blue Penguin |
| Korora | Fur Seal |
| South Island Robin | Silvereye |
| Tauhou | Riroriro |
| Oystercatcher | Skink |
| Weta | Torea |
| Piwakawaka | Beech |
| Kekeno | Tea Tree |
| Mokomoko | Akeake |
| Rangiora | Grey Warbler |
| Karearea | Woodpigeon |
| Kawakawa | Bellbird |

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Starting in October there will be over 40 cruise ships visiting Picton, we would like to have a stall at the **Picton Lions market** during these visits. This would involve being present at the stall during the cruise ship visit to sell a range of our products as well as providing information about visiting the Sanctuary.

Time commitment:
approx. 1 - 6 hours

We are looking for **ideas to raise money** for the Sanctuary and we also need help implementing these ideas. If you are keen to help with fundraising events, idea creation and more.

Time commitment: variable

We have **school and group visits** to the Sanctuary regularly throughout the year.

These visits often involve helping with new plantings or assisting Andrew John our educator with larger groups. We need volunteers to help with these educational events.

Time commitment: 2-3 hours

The Kaipupu shop needs a bit of a update and we would like to do this by creating some new displays. This would involve repurposing some of the stuff we currently have in the shop and a **"handyperson"** who can help build some wood frames (with shelving). We have a relatively simple plan but we need some guidance from someone who has the building skills to make the idea work. At this stage we would be creating four shelves/displays.

Time commitment: depends on how fast you can hammer!

We have received funding to help get rid of **weedy pests** on the Sanctuary but first we need to know where they are. We need help locating and identifying weeds across the Sanctuary, this will require some knowledge of weeds but we hope to have some expert help as well. We will be using the current monitoring tracks to do a presence or absence survey. As with the pest monitoring there are a range of tracks for different abilities.

Time commitment: 2 hours + (depending on the number of tracks you choose to help with)

KEEP UP TO DATE

Make sure that we have your email address so you can keep up to date with all the exciting things happening at the Sanctuary. If you haven't heard from us in a while then let us know.

CONTACT US

WEB www.kaipupupoint.co.nz

EMAIL info@kaipupupoint.co.nz

www.facebook.com/KaipupuPoint

www.twitter.com/Kaipupupoint



VISITING THE SANCTUARY

It is free to visit the Sanctuary. Access is by boat only. You can take your own boat out there or travel with one of the local water taxi companies. These trips range in price from \$20 - \$50 return. You can also access the Sanctuary by kayak.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

FOUNDATION PARTNERS



RIMU (from \$5,000/year)



KOHEKOHE (from \$300-\$999/year)



DO YOU KNOW A
SOMEONE INTERESTED
IN SUPPORTING KAIPUPU
WILDLIFE SANCTUARY?

GRANT FUNDING



HONORARY SPONSORS (recognised for assistance with goods or services)



TST Contracting



SPECIAL THANKS TO: Kenny Barging; Le Cafe; Picton ITM; Nigel Hutchinson; Robyn Spence; Marlborough Helicopters; Fulton Hogan; Jordan Family Trust; Tory Channel Contractors; Outward Bound