

FROM THE DECK

Newmarket stream restoration project

Welcome to spring 2019...

Inside:

Weed control

Planting

Rats

Pine Tree

and

Please join us for our

Spring Gathering :

Sunday, Oct 20th, 3.30 - 5.30

at 9a Swinton Close.



What we've achieved

Weed control - without which our plants will die. Throughout the winter Te Ngahere has worked at keeping the weeds down - hand control and spot sprayed - in Units 1, 2, 3

1200 plants June 2019 - flaxes, grasses, trees - ponga, manuka, kanuka, puriri, kowhai, kaikatea, mahoe, putaputaweta, ti kouka (cabbage) and others. This makes our total to date approximately 2500 plants!

Pine tree - our old pine tree by Swinton Close has been felled. There is wood galore available for anyone who would like some. Please just let us know. We have advertised in Neighbourly and Freecycle.

Rats - there are signs that we are making progress - high counts on some of our 6 Good Nature traps, nikau seedlings flourishing in our valley, reports of no winter rats in ceilings.

For those of you who keep your snap traps out - A 2016 Victoria University study showed free-ranging rats prefer cheese, milk chocolate, Nutella and walnuts over standard peanut butter. They're especially drawn to fat.

We intend to be part of a GPS system which identifies the location of our rat traps and logs our catches. We will let you know when that is happening.

Water - monitoring of stream quality is ongoing. Be careful what you put in your storm water - it all ends up in our harbour via our steam.

Bird count - A number of us took part in Landcare Research annual bird count but the results are not yet available.



June Planting Day



Graham checking on Good Nature traps

Spring 2019 - Where to from here

Late Sept: Weed control will be undertaken in Unit 4 (see map attached), Ada St side of the stream in preparation for planting. We will notify everyone affected personally - some of you have said you will look after your own weeds and we have noted that. As well there will be continuing maintenance for Units 1/2/3 (see map).

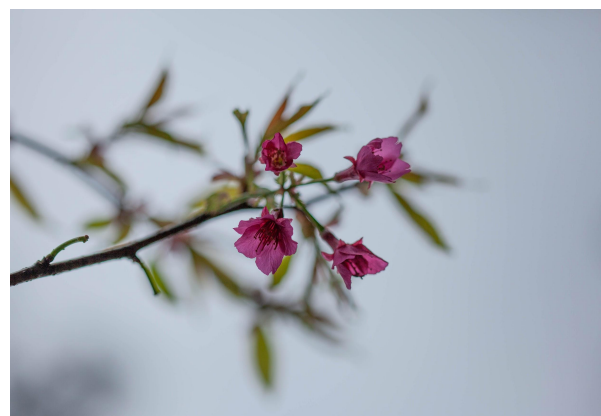


Sacred Kingfisher spotted in the restoration area

October - Possible working bee to stack/move wood from pine tree.

October 20th - Spring gathering at 9a Swinton Close, 3.30 - 5.30pm for snacks and drinks. More information later.

Late November : Presentations to new local boards, Orakei and Waitemata, to ensure our continued funding.



Spring flowers are blooming around the stream

Shed : A shed will be installed on Swinton Close area to store our wheelbarrows, spades etc. Graham and Colin are supervising this so any suggestions, help etc to them - see contacts list.

Pipe and slip - Watercare has completed geotechnical and site assessments of the pipe and slip at the western end of the stream and have undertaken to repair them. In the interim the pipe and manhole structure have been supported.

Restoration in progress



This free app: from one of our number, Julie Kidd:

“If anyone is interest in the maori names of our native species and how to pronounce them correctly, here is a free app I wrote some time ago – it is called [Te kete reo o Tāmaki Makaurau](#) (the basket of language for Auckland) and helps non-reo speakers pronounce about 100 places, spaces and species found here.”

A search engine that plants trees: find it at www.ecosia.org If you want to check out its *bona fides* search ‘Is Ecosia legit?’

An inspiring documentary: ‘Man takes 30 years to regenerate native bush : Fools and Dreamers’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VZSJKbzyMc&feature=youtu.be>

Pest weed of the month: Rout this out: Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*): common at the site, flowers spring-autumn (but I believe it is most heavily flowering in late spring to summer). Don’t be mislead by the nice nice scent! It is invasive.



Our pictures: [Here](#) are some pictures from the restoration area and events. These are taken by one of our group Tushar Sharma:
<http://www.tusharma.com>



Our Contacts

If you’d like to know more about From the Deck or the Newmarket Stream Restoration please contact: Penny Hansen, – pjhansen48@gmail.com, 021 585 078 Carole Davies, - carolejdavies@gmail.com, 021 848 165 Graham Burrell, - grahamburrell@xtra.co.nz, 027 443 8615, Susan Buckland - Pest trap recording - susan.buckland@xtra.co.nz.

Supported By



Te Ngahere plan of stream restoration project

