

FROM THE DECK

NEWMARKET STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT

WELCOME TO SPRING 2018

Spring is here and we begin Phase Two & Three of our restoration of the Ada / Bassett stream, our section of the Newmarket Stream. Thank you to everyone who has participated this past year.

Vision

This is our vision which we are always keen to discuss:

Phase One : create paths, weed and plant below Swinton Close

Phase Two : create path, weed and plant upstream towards the culvert

Phase Three : weed and plant downstream toward Middleton

Phase Four: weed and plant middle stream between Swinton & Middleton areas.

If you want to look at our area on an excellent map, look at

<https://geomapspublic.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/viewer/index.html>

And use the + to go into our area and see it in detail.

Join Us: Sunday November 25th
9am to 1pm at
9a Swinton Close: catch up with neighbours over a delicious morning tea and a little weeding down the hill.



ACTION ALONG THE STREAM

In 2017/18 planting was our biggest achievement. We focused on the area around Swinton Close. For our first working bee we created paths, barrowloads of mulch from the Auckland Council, to enable access. Next, we got rid of weeds: blue morning glory, tradescantia, acanthus (bear's britches), elephant's ear. At last on Sat June 30th – was it that long ago?! – we had a working bee, centred at Carole's house in Swinton Close and with the help of many of you and of other willing people, we planted 1200 plants: amongst them, cabbage trees, flax, muehlenbeckia, native grasses, manuka, kanuka, five fingers.



Planting June 30 2018 at Swinton Close end of stream

PLANS FOR 2018/19

All plans are subject to discussion – all contributions more than welcome! Follow up upstream work been sprayed once needs to be planted.

Phase 2 & 3 for this year
– Nov 2018 to April 2019
Complete upstream work: paths, weeding, planting.
Downstream, Middleton Rd area, Te Ngahere will manage weeds, then planting to be undertaken by us with more working bees.
<http://www.te-ngahere.co.nz/who-we-are/>

Saturday November 25th 9am to 1pm :
working bee and spring gathering. Weed if you can, but mainly catch up with neighbours over a delicious morning tea.

RAT ATTACK

We have now had 2 rat pulses and are in the middle of our third. Since most of you use bait stations rather than traps, it is hard for us to know just how successful these have been. What we do know is that on our second pulse - Aug/Sept – many of our baits were untouched. Either this means the rats are asleep or they have gone. Please give us feedback on your view of where we are at with the rats. Our next pulse will run in November. An email will be sent to remind you to set traps etc. Anyone who needs additional baits and or stations and traps, please let me know in the final week of October. And don't forget to report to Susan Buckland

susan.buckland@xtra.co.nz

BIRD COUNT

A group of us gathered in July at Annabelle & Clive Couldwell's to organise our contribution to Landcare Research's annual bird count. You will find our contribution on

<https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/home>

along with the rest of the country!

THANK YOU TOO

For the 2018/19 year our Local Boards, Waitemata and Orakei have continued their support of our work. Working with Healthy Waters, the branch of the Auckland Council concerned with water, we have \$40,000 to put towards the clearing of weeds and pests and the planting of the streamside.

MORE TO DO

Opossums

Stream analysis

If you'd like to know more about the From the Deck or the Newmarket Stream Restoration please contact:

Penny Hansen, From the Deck – pjhansen48@gmail.com

Carole Davies, From the Deck - carolejdavies@gmail.com

Susan Buckland - Pest trap recording - susan.buckland@xtra.co.nz

Annabelle Couldwell - Bird Count Recording - annielive@xtra.co.nz

