

From the Deck

Summer
2020

NEWMARKET STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT

Inside:

- Privets and pest plants
- Get involved
- Good work happening in our communities

Please join us for a gathering on
Feb 21st 330-530pm



Privets and pest plants

Our partners Te Ngahere have continued with their work on the weed species in our valley, concentrating on the newly planted areas in zones 1,2,3. Richard and his team have now given us an analysis of the privets in our valley.

We are attaching a map outlining the privets graded according to the difficulty in getting rid of them. 16 hours of Te Ngahere's spring maintenance will be allocated to controlling privets not requiring arborist control. Arborist control was due to take place before October when privet come into flower and become an allergen. However, due to delays in this year and to bird breeding in October, this will now take place in summer/early autumn 2021. Property owners will be advised and consulted. Due to financial constraints this will be a slow process taking place over a few years, with constant work on any new seedlings.

If you visit the site, you will notice lots of rye grass growth. That has been planted, by Te-Ngahere, for natural moisture retention in the soil.

Read about our project on the [Te Ngahere](#) website



Our next gathering

February 21st 330-530/From the Deck 9A Swinton Close

A quote from brilliant writer Richard Powers, his book Overstory:
What is the best time to plant a tree? 20 years ago.
What is the second best time to plant a tree? Now.

Get involved

Report water quality issues

Don't forget to report any smells from the stream to 09 377 3107. Even if it seems that no action is taken, it is important that pollution in the stream or in any waters feeding into our stream or into which it feeds, are recorded. Without the data, nothing will happen.

Control pests

Please let us know if you are being bothered by rats or possums. Our November pulse, the third for the year, is well under way. If you would like more baits, or traps or stations, please let us know. Also, if you would like a possum trap we can supply those. Don't forget that while baits cannot be left out indefinitely, traps can be working all the time.

Help the birds

Since lockdown many of us have noticed an increase in birdlife. One of our members has asked that we remind cat owners to make sure their

cats have bells. Sadly we have found tiny feathers at the foot of trees in our neighbourhood. An ominous sign!

Communicate Mobile numbers

We have emails on our database – obviously or you wouldn't be getting this email! But would also like to have more mobile numbers for ease of communication. We'd be grateful to those of you who are willing to please email yours to us or send to our mobiles. Please contact Penny or Carole.

Facebook

Don't forget we have a facebook page: [The Deckers](#). Thank you to Issa for keeping this up-to-date.

Website

We have Tushar Sharma to thank for our beautiful photos and now he has put together a website for us: <https://fromthedeck.org> This will mean our newsletter can be shorter, referring to the website, so saving us all that

valuable commodity, time. Does anyone else long for lockdown - or at least aspects of it?

We need help

Do you know of any youngish people in our neighbourhood with a keen interest in the environment and some planning and organisational skills? We'd love to have them join our team. And if you have any suggestions as to we we might interest them, please let us know. We are keen to involve others.

We will be calling you all in the autumn to help with our 2021 plant.



Hapua Thrive

The inimitable Margot Nicholson ran the zoom meeting to draw attention to the state of our waters on 23 August. Please go to their website (look under Latest) to read and hear the fantastic contributions. It will both depress and inspire you. Our waters need our attention.

<https://www.hapuathrive.nz>

Orakei Environment Forum

For more inspiration, Carole, Tushar and Penny attended Orakei Local Board's inaugural Environment Forum in November, bringing all groups working towards a better environment together. Driven by our Orakei Local Board representative, Margaret Voyce, it was an inspiration. Ngati Whatua Orakei and Auckland Council are

working together across the local board area, with many projects, including a War on Privets.

Remuera Golf Club is partnered with 1200 golf clubs worldwide to improve natural spaces at golf clubs, protect the wild life, trees, get rid of pests, plant natives, are doing some great work.

<https://sustainable.golf/about/>

Good work happening in our communities



Places to walk

Some places to walk not too far from home where local groups and Council are working hard to give nature a chance:

Tahuna Torea

<https://walksinauckland.com/walks-auckland-tahuna-torea/>.

Pourewa Valley

<https://www.pourewavalley.org/pourewavalley.htm>

Waiatarua Wetlands

<https://walksinauckland.com/waiatarua-reserve-fun/>

Elsewhere volunteers and Council are working together on...

Eastern Bays Songbird Project

<https://songbird.org.nz/web/get-involved>

Friends of Kapa Bush

<https://www.pourewavalley.org/kepabushreserve.htm>

Friends of the Whau

Warren Spiden, one of our members, sent information about Friends of the Whau after spending time working with them. Another inspirational organisation!

<https://www.naturespace.org.nz/groups/friends-whau-inc>

Our Team

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

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Visit us on Facebook @ [The Deckers](#)

Website: <https://fromthedeck.org>

[Photographs](#) from the restoration area

We would love for you to bring your skills to the group.
Please contact anyone on our team.

Supported By



Te Ngahere



Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau



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