

From the Deck

Winter
2022

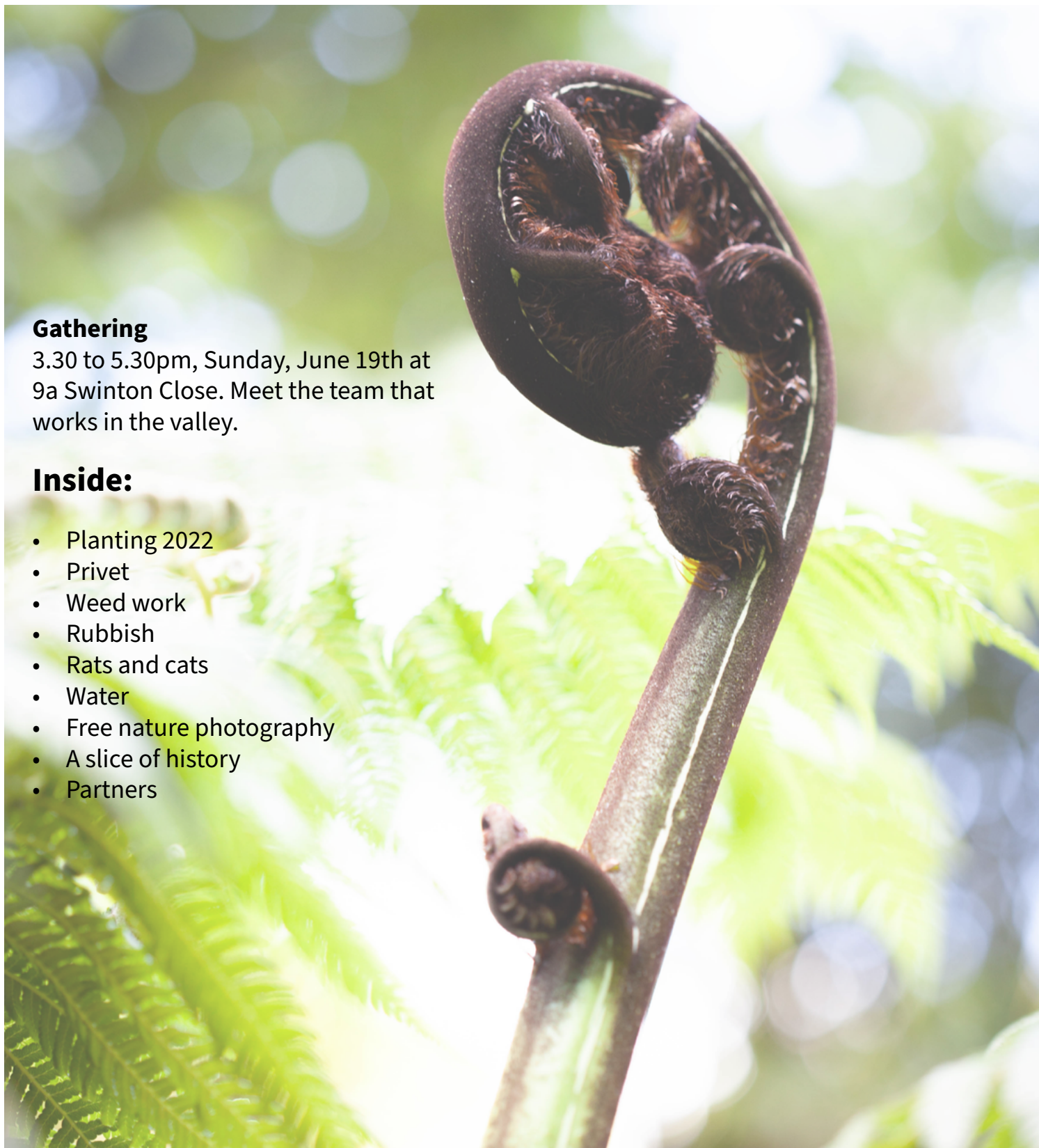
NEWMARKET STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT

Gathering

3.30 to 5.30pm, Sunday, June 19th at
9a Swinton Close. Meet the team that
works in the valley.

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- Planting 2022
- Privet
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- Rubbish
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What's been happening in the valley

Planting 2022

Our planting in June/July 2022 will be covering less ground than in past years. This year's planting will be done on the less accessible steep stream banks downstream from planting undertaken in the past. Yes, we are moving downstream which our downstream members will be pleased about! Te Ngahere, with the guidance of Richard Mairs, will do this work as the terrain is challenging and too risky for volunteers. Partly for this reason, the plants we are choosing this year will be larger specimens. They will include mahoe, kohekohe, puriri, te kouka/ cabbage trees, putaputawete and sedges near the stream. Stream sides and gaps created by privet control will take priority.



Gathering

3.30 to 5.30pm, Sunday, June 19th at 9a Swinton Close.

Diary it today. We'd love to see you - our usual convivial company of neighbours with delicious snacks and refreshing drinks. And your chance to have questions answered by our team.



Photopoint 10, Sept 16 2019



Photopoint 10, Dec 20 2021

Here are some pictures that capture the evolution our valley has gone through over the past few years!

Privet

Small privets have been controlled during the December and March visits by cutting and treating stumps. Arborists will climb the larger tree privet we are focusing on this year. They will dismantle the crown and higher parts of the trunk. The trunk itself will be left standing and intensive planting will be undertaken to minimise the impact of the gap. Looking at the Point 10 photos, you can see how amazingly quickly the growth has covered the debris from the pine tree removal.



Photopoint 4, March 14 2018

Weed work

Without the work to control weeds (look at pic taken March 14, 2018!), our plants would be strangled and disappear. Main threat to the plantings are climbers including blue morning glory, jasmine and Madeira vine. The challenge is to control these weeds to prevent them strangling the plants. So far so good, on that score, thanks to the maintenance work.

Plant maintenance and pest plant control visits have taken place in December and March with another scheduled for the week of 30 May-3 June. As a result of this work our plantings are flourishing.



Photopoint 4, Dec 8 2021

Rubbish

Not a pretty sight. Appliances and shoes and everything else imaginable in the stream. They keep washing up and down, and thank you to everyone including Te Ngahere who removes any they find.

Rats and cats

Update from Matt (Te Ngahere) – The pulse conducted on 27 April, 22 caught only one mouse, no rats. However, the total bait take over the four visits was 1.477kg, which is a marked increase over the 0.140kg take from the previous pulse. This is most likely due to the fact that the bait stations have been present in the environment for some time and this has allowed the rats to get used to them (they generally do not like new things).

Rat money

To those of you who donated money to combat rats: Our funding has covered the costs this year of tracking, trapping and monitoring traps so we have the money safely kept (in KiwiBank) in case we need to use it to fund ratting in the future.

Bells

If you have a cat, don't forget to make sure your cat has a collar bell to scare the birds.

Photos taken by Carole on the same day as the pulse – so we can surmise that the increase in “bait take” is having the desired effect.



Water

We went to the Orakei Local Board Environmental Forum “Water: Taonga for the future”:

1. Ngati Whatua Orakei opened honouring their uncle, Rangatira Joe Hawke and speaking to a number of their projects, including their gardens in the “old pony club” on Kapa Rd and the 25 hectare Tahuna Taonga in Glendowie.
2. Bill McGarry spoke to the many improvements in the Orakei Outboard Boating Club, which have gained them a Blue Water accreditation (part of an international standard).
3. Yolanda Thorp spoke to engineered wetlands which provide an invaluable filtration buffer between land and ocean removing heavy metals, oils and other contaminants.
4. WaterCare representatives, Andrew Chin & Sophie Jeffries, gave an exciting overview of the planned wastewater (sewage) separation and management. This has been enabled by the water quality targeted rate which forms part of the council’s \$7 billion investment in Auckland’s water infrastructure in the 10-year Budget. You will all be familiar with the sewage contamination of our beaches and harbour.
5. Dr Robyn Simcock, Landcare, presented practical suggestions for the householder toward conservation and sustainability.
6. Councillor Desley Simpson spoke to the Glendowie nature reserve - Tahuna Torea and an OLB special award was presented to Mr Chris Barfoot for his unending support for its development.



Free nature photography workshops

Orakei Local Board and the Wildlink network has funded a series of free nature photography workshops.

Watch a [video](#) of the Tahuna Torea workshop on May 22. Here are two of the beautiful pictures captured by students to show us the diversity and beauty of Tahuna Torea in the colder months. There is so much to appreciate, and a walk on the trails and the beach is good for our wellbeing.

There are two more workshops in June (Kepa Bush June 4, Churchill Park June 18), and another one at Dingle Dell on August 6. [Book online](#).

If you have suggestions for locations for future workshops, please email tushar@imagen8.co.nz. If you are keen to help organise and spread the word, we would love to hear from you!



Karo, by Genevieve, Te Kura School



Capture by Karla, Glendowie School

A slice of history

‘Newmarket stream has been identified using several names, each reflecting stages of its history. The Maori name for the Newmarket stream is Te Ruareoreo which means ‘echos’. In addition to ‘Newmarket Gully’, settlers referred to the stream as ‘Hobson’s Creek’ or ‘Hobson’s Gully’, in reference to New Zealand’s first Governor, William Hobson. Newmarket stream was also referred to as ‘slaughterhouse creek’, from the 1850s after a Slaughterhouse was

constructed at the head of the gully. The Maori name for the Newmarket area was Te Ti Tutahi, named after a sacred isolated cabbage tree which stood on the corner of what is now Broadway and Mortimer Pass.’ (Thanks to Gecko.)



Partners

Theresa and Danielle

The help we get from people who work at the Council is invaluable. Our fantastic guide Theresa Pierce has recently been co-opted to work with other fortunate people. Thank you, Theresa, for all you’ve done for us. You have made our lives much easier and thanks in good part to your expertise, we have seen the growth in the valley flourish while you’ve been with us. Danielle Newton, working from Auckland Council Healthy Waters, will now take over from Theresa. Danielle tells us : “My passion is education for reconnection, particularly with wai, the essence of life that moves us through te ao.’ We look forward to working with her.

Here you’ll find links to other organisations we connect with:

[Environmental Weed Coalition](#)

[Waipapa Stream Restoration](#)

[Matuku Link](#)

[Econet](#)

[Globaldesigningcities](#)

[Predator Free NZ](#)

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



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