

Habitat



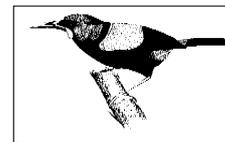
NORTH SHORE BRANCH

APRIL – AUGUST 2008



EARTH – THE LAST FRONTIER

Space – the final frontier. These are the voyages of the starship Enterprise... We all know how the theme goes. Will the earth become so inhabitable that future generations are forced to explore 'strange worlds and new civilizations?' We are capable of going to the moon, Mars, our sister planet Venus – where one's ice cream will certainly melt! – and even Mercury, but why would we? Why should we? Only if we fail to save the planet we have from dire destruction.



**FROM
THE EDITOR**

New Zealand is a forest biome, meaning lush forests used to cover the entire mainland. Today most natural habitats and vast wilderness areas are lost to human endeavour – some justified and some not.

In a bid to prevent our own demise, read on about how sustainable living is attainable. Let us boldly go where no country has gone before!

We were in luck on the Saturday evening of 16 February which turned out to be just right for an outing! A small group of adults and children met at the car park. We walked down the public walkway, trekked past the area that is still heavily weeded, then into the planting area...

To the left is the area planted mainly in manuka, with a sprinkling of little forest trees. Next to this is the small area that we are currently replanting, which is taped off with white rope. The plants in the north corner are doing well. They are planted in compost and the area is mulched. (Next step here is to chop down the last of the weeds, spread more mulch and plant the remaining area; then we will move on to another small area.)

Past all this and further up the slope we see that the flaxes are growing well and some of the earlier planted areas are flourishing. The trees have grown a lot over the past year. And, despite the soil being mostly clay and very dry, the plants on the bank above the pond are in great condition.

Down on the flat, where it is very wet in winter and baked in summer, the flaxes, cabbage trees and

TUFF CRATER DUSK WALK

toetoe are doing well. The toetoe right down by the sea are flowering at present. We note the erosion of the estuary bank as the water flows in and out under the motorway culvert. Large chunks of the bank have fallen into the sea and many plants also.

Moving on we enter the pathway that goes around the crater and the younger members of the party have fun and swordfights with pampas stalks. Part way round we meet up with Peter who is collecting bugs off the gorse and bottling them. After 15 minutes or so we have to turn back as it is getting dark.

Back by the pond Alan has set up the moth trap and the light is beaming up into the sky. Not so many moths as on other occasions, as the weather was not perfect but, enough to spark interest and enthusiasm from all present. One moth cannot be identified by the experts present and this stirs excitement with thoughts of an unknown moth and a new discovery!

Many thanks to Jim Lewis and Peter Maddison for their support and knowledge, and to Alan Emmerson for his work with the moth trapping.

If any of you get a chance to come to something like this in the future, please do – it was a great evening out.

– Anne Denny

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REEF HERON *EGRETTA SACRA* - (MATUKU)



TUI *PROTHEMADERA NOVAESEELANDIAE*

APRIL – AUGUST 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY *TIAKI TAIAO*, NORTH SHORE BRANCH

FROM THE CHAIR



WHAT

WILL

YOU

BE

DOING?

A phrase that starts an advert which challenges our use of time. Watching the real sky may be a better choice. Advertising does have both positive and negative effects. Each of us requires knowledge about what is available to meet our needs. It is just that too often those needs tend to change into wants. Our standard of living is now more geared to an accumulation of gadgets, many of which can change our use of time and resources, e.g. some reduce our distance from other people (how quickly we can communicate), whilst others make us more remote from the real world – our threads in the web of life.

So what will you be doing: if your mobility becomes limited, or if the managers of your city or region change, or if the supply of water costs more, or if your environmental footprint continues to increase? The final touch; the tipping point in a balance; the breaking point; the last straw are phrases that reflect perceptions on the ultimate cumulative impact of changes. So when does a trend impact on you require an action?

What you and others are doing now will also contribute to these trends in a positive or negative way. Our habits, use of time, and personal goals affect more than ourselves. This year your vote may contribute to a political change; your use of energy to a shortage that may increase the cost or change a habit. Trends in travel demand will increase costs which may force you to change destinations where you work or play. The decisions of the Royal Commission on Auckland are likely to affect who charges you rates, imposes regulations, etc. Which trend and when, will tip the balance for you?

As a member of Forest & Bird, what will you be doing if the trend in fewer members locally and nationally continues? Are you concerned that we as a society may become extinct? What will you be doing if there are not enough people to form an effective committee...

– Jim Lewis

Welcome New Members!

We'd like to welcome the members who recently joined North Shore Forest & Bird:

- Peter Carnall
- Caroline Knox
- Mike Tomlinson
- Yung Chui Han
- Sue Newman
- Lisa and Matt Chapman
- Julie Washer
- Rupert Lewis
- Robyn & Clarry Moffitt
- Joy McNair
- Rachel Blake
- Patricia Parkin
- Mark Caisley
- Mrs Joyce Taylor
- Merylyne Brown
- Clive Rose
- Katy Johns
- Penny & Ralf Krone
- Brenda Marinkovich
- Beth Hansen
- Bruce & Susan McLean
- Hilary Akenhurst
- Matthew Butts
- Esta Chappell
- Bronwen Gray
- Christopher Wilson
- Jacob, Daisy, Sam, Sean Power
- Linda Shaw

MAY YOU ENJOY PARTNERING WITH US IN OUR CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES

A Thank You Letter from Dorothy Wernham

I wish to acknowledge the help and support I have received from many members with the Habitat folding and delivery.

Rona and Eric Nancekivell for the use of their home: Rona for lovely morning teas; Eric for supervising the folding.

The many Ringers, Folders and Deliverers; Nick for keeping the e-mail list up to date; Victor for having the Habitat ready on time.

I am sure Linda will receive the support that I have had.

Editor's note: Linda is looking for Folders in the Greenhithe area. Please make yourselves known to her (ph 413 9851).



NORTH ISLAND ROBIN - TIRITIRI MATANGI



CHATHAM ISLANDS BLACK ROBIN

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NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY *TIAKI TAIAO*, NORTH SHORE BRANCH

Tuff Crater or Tank Farm is a preserved, 800m diameter explosion crater with surrounding tuff ring. It formed 30,000-40,000 years ago when rising magma forced a one-off explosion, leaving a ring of tuff or volcanic ash. The crater has been breached by the sea to the east and is now a mangrove marshland and tidal inlet.

Te Kopua o Matakamokamo or Tuff Crater has for many centuries been a focus of living, valued for its natural resources. Awataha is the name of the kainga (habitation) which was situated by the waters of Shoal Bay. Some names, which tell us something of the natural resources of the area, survive from these early residents. The northern slope of the crater is Raupungata (dried-up foliage) where in an extremely dry season the leaves of the puriri had dried up. Two springs were significant to the early inhabitants, as these bubbled fresh water into the crater. The crater was also a place of refuge and afforded good views out to the Waitemata. The area was favoured with good supplies of kaimoana (seafood) and bush food.

Today, a series of large depressions shaped like steep amphitheatres can be seen around the northern edge of the crater. These are excavations where fuel tanks were being constructed to store fuel for the US Pacific Operations during World War II. The tanks were dismantled before they were commissioned and the large depressions left in the ground. On the south-eastern side of the crater rim there used to be an old quarry which provided material for motorway construction in the late 1950s.

The crater site is one of contrasts. It is bordered in the south by tidal feed to the wetland, in the west by houses, in the north by a business park, and in the east by the northern motorway. Across the motorway are more mangroves and substantial shell banks which form the foreground to Shoal

TUFF CRATER – PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE



Bay. A few kilometres across the bay are the Sky Tower and cityscape. The crater is a challenging site – very wet in winter as there seems to be a lack of topsoil and waterlogged clay beneath, and extremely dry in summer due to the north-facing aspect and prevailing winds. Spring and autumn are the best times to weed or plant.

Initial plantings adjacent to The Warehouse site have included a lot of manuka and flax to act as nursery plants for successive plantings of forest trees. The sloping areas are mixed and include pittosporum, ramarama, flax, manuka, houhere, whiteywood, poroporo, griselinia, etc. Near the sea

the area is very boggy in the winter and flax and toetoe, marsh ribbonwood and coprosma (mingimingi) are being established.

There is public land around the crater and a public walkway, but unfortunately this does not join up alongside the motorway so that this area is difficult to maintain and hence heavily infested with pampas, moth plant, asparagus fern and many more. All these seed into the planting area which requires regular attention. There have been working bees to remove small pampas and moth plants, but the real solution is spraying on a regular basis.

Forest and Bird's involvement...

In 1999 North Shore Forest and Bird wanted to contribute something to North Shore city as part of the millennium celebrations. It was decided to restore the northern end of Tuff Crater and, with the assistance of the City Council, the Tuff Crater Millennium Forest Project was launched. The design and planting list were devised by a landscaper. Since then, there has been a planting each year in conjunction with the North Shore City Council. The aim is to replant the reserve with flora endemic to this area in order to restore native bird and invertebrate populations. This will require a fostering of the young plants, removal of weeds, and continued maintenance.

Forest and Bird would also like to monitor the biota of the reserve and record the changes that occur during restoration.

Over the past few years Forest and Bird and the North Shore City Council have liaised about weed control and planting, and developing plans for the future.

During the year a group of Forest and Bird members continue to mulch, weed and plant in a small area. As each small area is completed they move on to a new area. If you'd like to join them please give Anne Denny a ring (480 5570).

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The Forest and Bird Library Collection is now at Awataha Marae, 58 Akoranga Drive. Open Mon - Fri 10am to 3pm. Phone 486 5467

APRIL – AUGUST 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY *TIAKI TAIAO*, NORTH SHORE BRANCH

NZ's challenge to live sustainably and become completely carbon-neutral by 2040

Our big export earners – agriculture, horticulture, forestry and tourism – rely on a stable, predictable climate. We are not protected from climate change. New Zealand has already started warming. Effects include depleting snow and rising sea levels. The latest forecasts are for more frequent droughts and floods to occur (generally drier in the east and wetter in the west).

Human activities like commuting, farming, traditional power generation and forest harvesting lead to an increase in greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide). These gases congregate in the atmosphere, trapping the sun's heat. The more greenhouse gases we release, the denser the gas layer around the earth becomes, and the faster the planet's climate heats up. The result is more extreme weather events, such as floods, storms, cyclones, droughts and slips (encroaching seawater leads to more coastal erosion).

International scientists now agree that the earth's climate is changing rapidly. It is projected that over the next 20 years the average world temperature could rise by 0.4°C. The flow-on effects are alarming.

New Zealand is a small country, but our carbon footprint per capita is significant. Our greenhouse gas emissions are escalating rapidly, producing 25% more than in 1990. New Zealanders emit nearly twice as much greenhouse gases per capita as the British and almost five times as much as the Chinese.

The main emissions increase (43%) is carbon dioxide from the energy sector (transport and electricity). Half of our total

greenhouse gas emissions are produced by agriculture (methane and nitrous oxide from livestock). Our growing dairy industry and energy demand mean that our net emissions are likely to increase to over 70% above 1990 levels by 2012.

The challenge is to build an open and competitive economy based on innovation and best practice – an economy that also safeguards our resources for the future. This will enhance our lifestyles rather than forfeiting living standards. New Zealand is going to meet this by implementing the following targets:

- Achieve a net increase in forest cover of 250,000 hectares by 2020
- Generate 90% of electricity from renewable sources by 2025
- Halve greenhouse gas emissions from transport per capita by 2040 (We'll be one of the first countries to widely deploy electric vehicles!)

Reaching these targets will allow us to be effectively:

- Carbon neutral in the electricity sector by 2025
- Carbon neutral in the stationary energy sector by 2030
- Carbon neutral in the transport sector and thus total energy sector by 2040.

It is our responsibility to act on climate change. We need to embrace our global accountability and start to reduce greenhouse gas emissions now!

For more information go to www.climatechange.govt.nz

Happy Birthday KCC: 20yrs old this year!



The Kiwi Conservation Club (www.kcc.org.nz) is a Forest and Bird initiative for children. It began in 1988 and is cool for kids! Over 17,000 children receive the Kiwi Conservation Club magazine, including approximately 1,000 schools.

North Shore Kiwi Conservation Club coordinators required. Training provided. Ability to talk to kids and a passion for conservation essential. We currently have 5 coordinators so you

won't be on your own. Plenty of support available. Our club events are Sunday afternoons normally, once a month. Please contact Brian Gannon (443 2479) in the evenings or email Brian.Gannon@acsim.co.nz if you are interested.



TREASURER OR ASSISTANT WANTED!

If you have accounting or bookkeeping skills we'd love to hear from you! North Shore Forest and Bird is in special need of someone with computer and online capabilities. If you cannot attend meetings we would still appreciate your help, as you could offer your services as assistant to our current treasurer. To express interest please contact Cedric Hay (ph 410 5977) before the AGM of May 5th.

LONG BAY MARINE RESERVE VOLUNTEERS

Want to patrol this part of our coastline and assist DOC with regular duties? If you're observant and relatively fit please contact Jacky Geurts of F&B Auckland Office (ph 302 0203), or the Auckland Conservancy Office (ph 307 9279) or Auckland Area Office (ph 445 9142). (Official t-shirts and training provided.)



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APRIL – AUGUST 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY *TIAKI TAIAO*, NORTH SHORE BRANCH

WHAT'S ON

Public meetings take place on the first Monday of every month.

VENUE: Takapuna Senior Citizens' Hall,
The Strand (behind Takapuna Library).

TIME: 7.45pm.

ADMISSION: Gold coin cover costs.

We'd like to see you there!



APRIL Monday 7th

'Rare Plants of Auckland' by Rebecca Stanley (ARC Natural Heritage Ecologist). Bec will talk to us about threatened native plants with particular reference to North Shore species. Come hear why our plants become so rare...

MAY Monday 5th

'Regional Strategy for Biosecurity 2007–2012' by Jack Craw (ARC Group Manager Biosecurity). Come along and find out about potential new threats to our biosecurity and the continual challenge in addressing them. (This evening is also our AGM which will take place prior to the talk.)

JUNE Monday 2nd

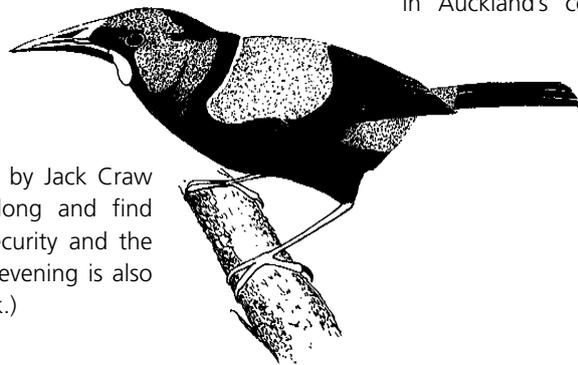
Marleen Baling (Research Technician, Behavioural Ecology and Conservation, Massey University) will share with us about shore skinks! She is responsible for the captive reptile facility at Massey and also monitors reptiles at Tawharanui and other Auckland Regional Parks.

JULY Monday 7th

'An overview of amphibians and their conservation issues' by Matt Baber (ARC Heritage Scientist). Matt holds a PhD in Amphibian Ecology from USA and completed postdoctoral work on amphibian decline. This presentation will also focus on NZ amphibians and their conservation management, with emphasis on Hochstetter's frog.

AUGUST Monday 4th

'Developing a policy framework to manage aquaculture in Auckland's coastal marine area' by ARC Coastal Policy. This policy is being reviewed. The speaker will be Dominic McCarthy or Anaru Vercoe. See you there!



BRANCH ACTIVITIES

June, Sunday 8th. TUFF CRATER Community Planting Day, 10am (finishing midday). Forest & Bird and NorthWest Wildlink event. Bring your spade, friends and neighbours. Follow the signs at the end of Warehouse Way, off Akoranga Drive. Look forward to meeting up again!

July, Sunday 20th. LE ROYS BUSH Planting Day, 10am-12pm, supported by North Shore City Council. Remember F&B secured this reserve for the people of Auckland back in 1947! Please bring gloves, gumboots and own spade if preferred. For directions phone Keith Salmon on 480 9233 or 021 069 0676; email: kwsalmon@gmail.com.

Note: Regular working bees are held at Le Roy's Bush from 2-4pm on the third Saturday of each month (except July).

Friends and family welcome!

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society *Tiaki Taiao*, North Shore Branch

PO Box 33-873, Takapuna, New Zealand | www.forestandbird.org.nz

The Committee 2008

JIM LEWIS	–	Chairman	480 7245
ALAN EMMERSON	–	Deputy Chairman	473 2216
JOCELYN SANDERS	–	Secretary	479 2107
CEDRIC HAY	–	Treasurer	410 5977
LIZ ANSTEY	–	Committee	480 1545
ANNE DENNY	–	Committee	480 5570
RICHARD HURSTHOUSE	–	Committee	410 5339
VICTOR MEYER	–	Committee	427 5774
CLAIRE STEVENS	–	Committee	419 1233
HELENE WILLIS	–	Committee	480 8851
BRIAN GANNON	–	KCC	443 2479
KAREN WEALLEANS	–	Guest speakers	410 1995
LINDA JOHNSON	–	Habitat deliveries	413 9851
NICK KEENLEYSIDE	–	Electronic distribution	info@fragileworld.org.nz

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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BIRD RESCUE

SYLVIA 478 8819

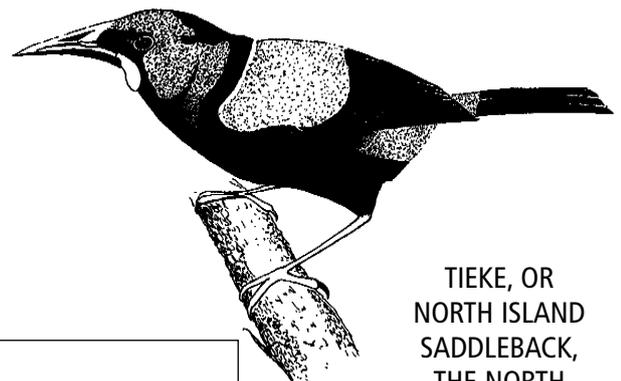
Remember if you are concerned about any conservation problems in your area, get in touch with Jim or Claire.

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NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH SHORE BRANCH
ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY



FOREST
& BIRD



TIEKE, OR
NORTH ISLAND
SADDLEBACK,
THE NORTH
SHORE BRANCH
EMBLEM