



MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

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Message from F&B Manawatū Chair

Since it seems winter is upon us now, we would like to invite people who are attending our monthly meetings at the Library, to come a little earlier than usual to join us for a cup of tea, biscuit and a chat before our speaking program, which will begin as usual at 7 30pm.

The Library people put on this cup of tea for us but often when it is cold and dark we just want to go home when the meeting is over.

So I hope you will join us for some socialising on the second Tuesday of each month. Our guest speakers are always very interesting and we appreciate your support.

That's all for this month

Margaret
Chairperson

“NEW LOCATION AT THE LIBRARY FOR OUR MONTHLY TALKS”

From this month's monthly talk, our meeting room location has changed at the Library - we are still holding our monthly meetings at the PN Central Library, but..... we will be on the [Mezzanine Floor just inside the main entrance](#). You will no longer be able to access the Library from the George Street entrance.

OUR MEETINGS ARE STREAMED VIA ZOOM

Are you aware we stream our monthly meeting, so if you are unable to make our monthly meeting, please click on the zoom link at the bottom of the meeting notice where you can hear the speaker and ask any questions you might have.

MAY 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 13th May from 7.00 p.m.
Meeting starts at 7.30 p.m

PN Central Library, Mezzanine Floor (Main entrance) ****Note new location****

(will be streamed via zoom – see below for link)

Talk: The ecology of Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatu-Tararua Highway
Speakers: **Caitlin Lavery** | Site Ecologist, Te Ahu a Turanga Alliance



Photos taken by: Caitlin Lavery | Site Ecologist, Te Ahu a Turanga Alliance

The Te Ahu a Turanga project stretches 11.5 km between Ashhurst and Woodville and after 5 years of dedicated work the road is soon to be open.

Alongside the impressive new infrastructure is a plethora of positive ecological outcomes including; planting over 1 million native plants, protection of QEII forests, avoidance and monitoring of At-Risk species, creation of offset sites, bush retirement, years of pest control to protect native species and the protection of waterways across the project scope. Due to the support and dedication of project iwi partners, construction and environmental teams, Te Ahu a Turanga has been able to leave the environment of the project in a better state than what is was found in and create positive ecological benefits for years to come.

This talk explains how vulnerable environments and species were protected over the years of the project and what this means for the area going forward.

Zoom Link: <https://forestandbird-org-nz.zoom.us/j/89985387977?pwd=HgmnXlgW64KAYGVGdJqyYVDCA8NdNA.1>

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

F&B MANAWATŪ MAY 2025 TRIP

Saturday 24th May 2025

Lake Papaitonga Scenic Reserve (This trip still has to be confirmed – check F&B Manawatū website next week for confirmation)



Papaitonga is a dune lake in the Horowhenua coastal plain rich in cultural and natural history. The lake contains two islands – Motukiwi (Papaitonga) and Motungarara (Papawhaerangi). The latter is an artificial island constructed by Muaūpoko residents in 1820 to extend their village.

Papaitonga Scenic Reserve is 135ha is an important refuge for birds that depend on wetlands or lowland forests for their survival and within the Reserve is the only intact sequence from wetland to mature dry terrace forest in Wellington and Horowhenua. The Reserve is managed by DoC

DEPT. TIME: 0900 a.m sharp

MEET & CAR POOLING from-

Palmerston North Opposite Salvation Army shop, Church St. Palmerston North

Feilding: Railway Station carpark

WHAT TO BRING: good walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, walking stick (if you use one), water, lunch, and do not forget your camera.

Required fitness level: Easy

TO REGISTER FOR TRIP – please contact:

Rosemary: 021 147 6731 or cullenrjrj@gmail.com

F&B Manawatū website: <http://www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz>

NATURE TRAIL SIGN IN THE PN CITY ESPLANADE

Totara

(Podocarpus totara)



One of our main conifers (a podocarp), and a forest giant, this tree has, over centuries, provided Māori with a significant resource including building waka (canoes) from the trunks to weaving baskets using the bark.



F&B EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

F&B Regional Hui – at Bushy Park Tarapurui in Whanganui Sunday 15th June, 2025

It will be a chance to meet members of F&B Staff, other Regional members and to hear interesting speakers. – as well as a lovely lunch. Also, a guided walk around Bushy Park Reserve. National Office will shortly be sending out a registration form to attend.

F&B National AGM and Council Meeting Saturday, 28 June at 9am (online)

Details about the AGM and how to register will be out shortly.

WORKING BEES

Weeding bee at Rangitikei remnant Saturday 17 and 24th May

Join us for a weeding bee at an old growth forest remnant near Mangaweka, part of a long-term restoration project supported by Forest & Bird and other volunteers.

You will be cutting out sycamore saplings and other weeds. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Gloves and tools will be provided. Snacks and hot drinks will be provided too!

We hope to have carpooling available. If interested in coming, please contact Sally by Wednesday 14th to find out more.

Email sallypearce@yahoo.com or phone/text 021 256 9641.

Wetland Planting

A Branch member has asked the Manawatū Branch for assistance with planting a very

large number of plants in wetland area on their Longburn farm.

- **Dates:** Wednesday 4th June and Saturday 7th June
- **Time:** 10.00 a.m.
- **Please bring** - Shovel, water, snacks, sturdy footwear/gum boots and rain coat if it's cold and wet.
- **BBQ lunch provided**

NOTE: It will be postponed if weather's terrible

Please contact: Bronwyn at manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz If you are able to help please state which day you can help, and if you wish to stay for BBQ lunch – or if you have any questions.

Rare snail saved from mining captured laying egg on camera

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/560246/rare-snail-saved-from-mining-captured-laying-egg-on-camera>



A rare and threatened species of West Coast snail has been captured on camera laying an egg for the first time.

The Powelliphanta augusta snail was being weighed by Department of Conservation (DOC) ranger Lisa Flanagan in when the little egg emerged from its neck.

DOC had been managing a captive population of the snails in chilled containers since 2006, when Solid Energy **started mining** their habitat on the Mt Augustus ridgeline on the western side of the Stockton Plateau near Westport.

Flanagan said it was a special moment after 12 years looking after the snails.

World Ocean Day

One Ocean, One Climate, One Future – Together

Sun, 8 Jun 2025



JUNE 2025 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 10th June @ 7.30 p.m.

PN Central Library, Mezzanine Floor (Main entrance) **Note new location**

(The talk will be streamed via zoom)

Talk: "What's so special about New Zealand's forget-me-nots?"

Speakers: Dr Heidi M. Meudt, Curator Botany, Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington



Did you know that Aotearoa New Zealand is home to about 50 species of forget-me-nots, most of which are found no where else in the world? Te Papa Curator Botany Heidi Meudt has been studying New Zealand's forget-me-not species (in the genus *Myosotis*) for over a decade. In this talk, she will introduce you to these amazing species, summarise some of her ongoing research to identify, name and understand them, and show you what makes each one of them special.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

That is all for this month. Hope to see you at our meeting in May 2025

Best wishes

Anthea

Anthea McClelland

Editor

F&B Manawatū Branch

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