



APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

F&B APRIL 2017 MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, 11th April, 2017 @ 7.15 p.m.

Sound and Vision Centre, Palmerston North City Library,
George Street, Palmerston North

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

followed @ 7.30 p.m.

by the **MANAWATU BRANCH MONTHLY MEETING**

"Investigating the efficiency of mast triggered 1080 pest control for South Island Robins in Tennyson Inlet, Marlborough Sounds"



Speaker: Mara Nydegger Bell, Massey University

Mara will build on last year's presentation on beech masts by Kevin Hackwell, and talk more specifically about 1080 as a pest control method, and in particular to the South Island Robins in Tennyson Inlet. She will discuss what the presence of beech masts, in a mixed coastal forest system, means to predator interactions, pest control, and nesting success of South Island Robins.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

F&B APRIL 2017 TRIP - Saturday, 22nd April, 2017

“ARCHIE’S TRACK, SUTHERLANDS PURIRI OUTLIER RESERVE, RANGITIKEI”



Archie's Track is a new track (opened in 2015), and is part of the F&B Rangitikei Reserves managed by the F&B Rangitikei Branch. The Reserve is in the Turakina Valley. The track takes about 1hr 15m and follows a route cut by Archie Sutherland and his workers, to reach the site of the original homestead.

It has been called Archie's Track, after the man who gifted the bush to Rangitikei's Forest and Bird branch in 1960. There's a diverse range of plants - rimu, tawa, rewarewa, totara and titoki - and many species of native fern. Birds there include the kereru, native falcon, grey warbler and fantail.

We will be guided by Hugh Stewart, F&B Rangitikei Branch. If time permits, there is an opportunity to visit one of the other F&B Rangitikei Reserves.

Depart: 09.00 a.m. – sharp from Palmerston North

Meet: Palmerston North - Car pool – meet on Church St, opposite Centrepont Theatre & Salvation Army Shop (on Railway land side).

If you carpool, please share petrol costs with the driver.

What to bring: Water, snacks and lunch, stout footwear and raincoat (in case).

Also, if you usually use walking poles, please bring them.

If you are interested in joining the trip, please email J.Panfylova@gmail.com with your contact details.

FOREST AND BIRD'S 'THE BEST FISH GUIDE 2017'



At the end of last year Forest & Bird released a powerful free mobile app which ranks the sustainability of more than 117 commercially harvested New Zealand seafood varieties.

The Best Fish Guide 2017 is New Zealand's only comprehensive and independent guide to sustainable seafood. It uses a traffic light system to guide consumers in their seafood choices.

Please visit the link below for all the information about, and how to download, the new App. Also, there is a pdf. that can be downloaded if you would like a hard copy.

<http://bestfishguide.org.nz/about/>

WORKING PARTIES FOR APRIL 2017

APOLLO BUTTERFLY PARK WORKING BEE

2nd Sunday of every month from 0900a.m. – 12noon

Help out with a working bee to keep the **Apollo Butterfly Park** looking beautiful and the butterflies happy.

WAITOETOE PARK – WORKING BEE

Last Sunday morning of every month

This totara forest remnant forms part of the riverside walkway and the local community have been planting and weeding to enhance this beautiful area of Palmerston North. Come and help out with a working bee that will include weeding, mulching and other general maintenance, followed by refreshments.

Meet in the park at the Buick Crescent entrance, which is next to Sharon Place. For more information, contact Rachel at rachel@inspect.net.nz

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF THE DEATH - ROBERT CUNNINGHAM BRUCE (*b. 1842 - d. 23 April 1917*)

"Friends" of the Rangitikei, Manawatu & Wanganui districts invite

To attend the 100 - year Commemoration of the death of Robert Cunningham Bruce on Sunday 23rd April 2017, 1.30 pm at the Bruce Memorial Reserve, Turakina Valley Road.

Robert C. Bruce - AB/seafarer, gold prospector, author, orator, Rangitikei settler & farmer, pioneer conservationist, benefactor, MHR [MP] 1884 - 1890 & 1892,1893

The Bruce Memorial Reserve is opposite 'Ngaruru' the former home and farm of Robert C. Bruce. At Hunterville, follow Bruce Street into Ongo Road before turning left into Turakina Valley Road.

- Wear suitable footwear for the short climb to the Bruce Memorial.
- Meet, greet, music, static displays to follow at the 'Ngaruru' woolshed.
- A plate for afternoon tea would be appreciated.

The Commemoration for Robert C. Bruce is a unique event to which the public is invited. The occasion should appeal to those who are interested in Rangitikei and New Zealand history and conservation. His ideals continue today throughout New Zealand with the Robert C. Bruce Trust.

RSVP/Enquiries: Roz Grant, 'Tullochgorum', 2153 SHW3, RD 11, Wanganui 4581
T: (06) 327 3861 or E: tullochgorum@xtra.co.nz

EARTH DAY 2017

Earth Day Celebrations Saturday 22nd April, 2017

Weed in the morning with RECAP

<http://enm.org.nz/event/earth-day-tradescantia-weeding-ashhurst-domain?eID=1145>

Be part of a volunteer crew that are celebrating Earth Day by weeding tradescantia off the bush floor in the Ashhurst Domain. Meet others who love the Ashhurst Domain and the iconic, endemic maidenhair fern that will be released by the tradescantia weeding.

Plant trees in the afternoon at Waitoetoe Park

<http://enm.org.nz/event/earth-day-plant-tree?eID=1140>

Share a BBQ and plant some trees to help offset your carbon emissions this year!



The Environmental Film Festival Reel Earth is New Zealand's only film festival to focus specifically on nature and the environment. The 2017 Festival, May 1-31, will focus its lens on local environmental solutions exploring what is happening around the world. The Festival presents 14 featured international films (8 of which will be shown in NZ for the first time), as well as short films from here and overseas, including 2 premieres. Most screenings are complemented by a discussion with environmental experts, community leaders and filmmakers and many are free.

The Festival kicks off on Opening Night (May 1st) with a 2015 Hot Docs selection documentary *The Messenger*, exploring our deep-seated connection to birds and warning us that the uncertain fate of songbirds might mirror our own. The opening celebration starts at 5:30 with music, drinks and welcoming speeches from Chris Whaiapu (Rangitāne), the Mayor and Brent Barrett (Festival founder).

Films and events are being held at 10 venues throughout the Manawatu region, including Te Manawa museum, PNCC Library, universities, and local theatres across the city and in nearby towns Ashhurst and Feilding. Over 60 percent of screenings and events are free.

For reservations and ticket information, visit the Reel Earth website, www.reeleearth.org.nz and find us @reeleearthfilmfest on Facebook, and Twitter.

You can also book your ticket on Eventfinda or visit the Globe Theatre (only for the Globe screenings).

CONSULTATIONS, SUBMISSIONS AND REPORTS

Thanks to Environmental Network Manawatu

[Waitoetoe Park Development Report](#)

A 29 March 2017 update on Waitoetoe Park has been provided by Jason Pilkington, Leisure Assets Planner for PNCC, along with a development report. The update and report can be found [here](http://enm.org.nz/application/files/6014/9075/4142/Waitoetoe-Park-Development-Report-Proof-01.pdf). <http://enm.org.nz/application/files/6014/9075/4142/Waitoetoe-Park-Development-Report-Proof-01.pdf>

SUBMISSIONS

[Horizons Regional Council - Annual Plan 2017-2018](#). Submissions close 13 April.

[Palmerston North City Council - Annual Budget 2017-2018](#). Submissions close 18 April.

[Ministry for the Environment - Next Steps for Fresh Water](#). Submissions close 22 April.

[Manawatu District Council - Annual Plan 2017/18](#). Submissions close 28 April. - * see below.

***Manawatu District Council - More information**

ENM received the following message from MDC Mayor Helen Worboys, inviting community comment and providing notice of public meetings:

Dear Community

Come and find out about Manawatu District Council's intentions for the year ahead.

- As well as planned works there are changes being considered in the Draft Annual Plan 2017/18 including:*
- Increase funding for the Roading Programme, District Plan Review, Community Planning, Community Development, Water Supply and Wastewater Programmes.*
- Proceed with the development of Council Place Carpark and Feilding Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade programme.*
- Close the bird aviaries at Kowhai Park.*
- Delay the construction of the Feilding to Palmerston North Cycleway, Bowen Street Upgrade, Resource Recovery Centre, Feilding Public Library Refurbishment, Sanson Playground, Timona Park Public Toilets, Halcombe Water Treatment Plant and Water Supply Infrastructure upgrades.*
- Reallocate funding from the Feilding Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade programme.*
- Reduce funding to Emergency Management (due to Central Government changes).*
- Not proceed with the water consent renewal for the water supply at Sanson (as a new alternative water supply system is being developed).*
- Establishing an Earthquake Prone Building Working Party.*
- Increasing rates by 3.6% which is less than the 4.5% forecast in the Long Term Plan.*

The Council wants to hear from the community about these proposals before its makes final decisions.

What do you think?

We warmly welcome you to join us at an Information Session. Please circulate this message to your networks. These are being held at the following times and locations:

Northern – Kimbolton Town Hall, Monday, 10 April at 7.00 pm

Central – Feilding Public Library, Wednesday, 12 April at 1.00 pm and 7.00pm

Southern – Te Kawanui Memorial Recreation Centre, Rongotea on Wednesday, 19 April at 7.00 pm

Draft Annual Plan 2017/18 is now available <http://haveyoursay.kiwi.nz>

Make a submission anytime until April 28 at 4pm.

ADVANCED NOTICE

F&B MANAWATU BRANCH MAY 2017 MONTHLY MEETING

Tues, 9th May 2017 @ 7.30 p.m.

PNCC Library, Sound and Vision Zone, George Street entrance

“A World Apart; two islands in two oceans – Gough Island and Mana Island”

Speaker: Chris Bell, Conservationist



Gough Island - [40.32°S 9.94°W](#)
Tristan da Cunha archipelago



Mana Island - [41.0876°S 174.7815°E](#)

Chris Bell and his wife spent a year on Gough Island, **Tristan da Cunha** is the name of both a remote group of [volcanic islands](#) in the south [Atlantic Ocean](#) and the main island of that group. It is the [most remote](#) inhabited [archipelago](#) in the world, lying 2,000 kilometres (1,200 mi) from the nearest inhabited land, And he is now DoC Ranger on Mana Island. Chris will talk about the conservation work and the differences and similarities between the two islands

F&B JUNE 2017 TRIP (there is no Monthly trip in May)
Saturday, 10th JUNE, 2017

MANA ISLAND



Mana Island has an incredible living spirit. It boasts shelter to many living insects, reptiles, birds, plant life, and in its surrounding waters, the abundant sea life. The Island's giant weta, *deinacrida rugosa* is believed to be the world's heaviest insect. The MacGregor Skink can be found in the shingle about the beaches and the gold stripe gecko can be found in the flaxes in the wetland. There are 39 bird species on the island, which are given the extra change of survival in their rodent-free domain. The endangered Cooks scurvy grass, ngaio, taupata, manuka, kanuka all make up Mana's certain future.

No: of Places available: 24 To Register and for more information:

Contact Julia Panfylova Email: J.Panfylova@gmail.com Phone: 021 050 5741

Cost: \$60 (\$50 for Friends of Mana Island members) No other discounts!

The trip is weather dependent and may be cancelled the day before – full refund or rebooking if this happens.

We will be guided by one of the Friends of Mana Island team.

Depart: 06.45 a.m. – sharp from Palmerston North
(need to be at Mana Marina at 8.30 a.m. for a 9.00 a.m. boat departure)
Return to Palmerston North approx.. 6.00 p.m.
(Leave Mana Island to the Mainland: 3.00-4.00 p.m.)

Meet: **Palmerston North** - Car pool – meet on Church St, opposite Centrepont Theatre & Salvation Army Shop (on Railway land side).
If you carpool, please share petrol costs with the driver.

Children are welcome: They will get more from the visit if they are used to walking as it's quite a good climb to the top of the island. However, you will need to bring a lifejacket for your baby or toddler (up to 3 years old)

What to bring: Water, snacks and lunch, stout footwear and raincoat (in case). Also, if you usually use walking poles, please bring them. Be prepared for heat, cold, sun, wind and rain. Mana Island is very exposed and the weather changes quickly.

There is a Biosecurity check before you are allowed on the Island –

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/know-before-you-go/visiting-pest-free-islands/>

POSTSCRIPT - ITEM OF INTEREST FROM DoC



Figure 2: Skink features (as shown on a Chesterfield skink)
Image: [DOC](#)

IDENTIFYING LIZARDS

Learn the important features of skinks and geckos, and how to take useful photos to help identify them.

Important features to identify lizards

Experts use a variety of features to identify lizards, including scale numbers, pattern, colour, and scale arrangement. Because subtle differences are important, try and take quality photos to show these features.

http://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/reptiles-and-frogs/lizards/identifying-lizards/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Whats%20up%20DOC%20March%202017&utm_content=Whats%20up%20DOC%20March%202017+CID_b4f7b29b503ddd75a47058bc37c81a68&utm_source=Email%20newsletters&utm_term=identify%20lizards

That's all for now – hope to see you at one of our Monthly Meetings

Anthea

Anthea McClelland
Chair, Forest and Bird Manawatū Branch
Manawatu.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz

