



## FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

A very belated Happy New Year to everyone

### F&B FEBRUARY 2017 MONTHLY MEETING

**Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 @ 7.30 p.m.**

PNCC Library, Sound and Vision Zone

George Street, Palmerston North

### **TALK: "WHERE THE RIVER MEETS THE SEA – MANAWATU ESTUARY"**



**Speaker:** Kelvin Lane  
Manawatu Estuary Trust

Kelvin will talk about the geography of the catchment area of the Manawatu Estuary; what makes the life-affording aspects of an estuary; why the estuary can only function, or falter, on its receiving waters; the effect of synthesising compounds and the lack of scientific endeavour and knowledge about an estuary.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

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**F&B FEBRUARY 2017 TRIP** - We are joining F&B Horowhenua Branch on their:

## Waitarere Forest and Beach Ramble - Looking for Orchids & Fungi

Date: Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

Details of the trip will be advertised soon



**Waitarere Forest**

Photo: From Web



**Waitarere Beach**

Photo: From Web

If you are interested in joining the trip, please email [J.Panfylvova@gmail.com](mailto:J.Panfylvova@gmail.com) with your contact details.

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## MANAWATU BRANCH MONTHLY PROGRAMME

### FEBRUARY – JUNE, 2017

*Programme is subject to alteration*

**SEA WEEK** – 25<sup>th</sup> February – 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

“Toiora te Moana – Toiora te Tangata – Healthy Seas, Healthy People”.

**Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Mar** ‘Field studies and conservation of Antarctic and New Zealand penguins’

**Speaker:** Dr John Cockrem, Professor of Comparative Endocrinology  
Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, Massey University

**Tue 11<sup>th</sup> Apr** Manawatu Branch AGM followed by:

‘Research into Mast triggered 1080 pest control for Tennyson Inlet South Island Robins’

**Speaker:** Mara Nydegger Bell, Massey University

**Tue 9<sup>th</sup> May** ‘A World Apart; two islands in two oceans – Gough Island and Mana Island’

**Speaker:** Christopher Bell, Conservationist

**Tue 13<sup>th</sup> Jun** to be announced

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“Toiora te Moana – Toiora te Tangata – Healthy Seas, Healthy People”.

## Celebrate SEA WEEK – 25<sup>th</sup> February – 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

It's a national celebration of our marine environment.

[Find Seaweek events near you](#)

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### F&B App reveals New Zealand's best and worst seafood choices



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/>

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### MARGARET NEILSON MEMORIAL PLAQUE

At the entrance of Atawhai Park, Atawhai Road, Palmerston North



In December, Viv and Tony McGlynn and Roger Purchas erected a Memorial Plaque to Margaret Neilson in front of a Rata planted in Margaret's memory. The Rata was given by another F&B member, Chris Thomasen.

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### WORKING PARTIES FOR FEBRUARY 2017

#### APOLLO BUTTERFLY PARK WORKING BEE

2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:rachel@inspect.net.nz)

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Palmerston North Esplanade Day**

**Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 10.00-4.00 p.m.**

**Come and visit the KCC (Kiwi Conservation Club) Stand**



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## **Royal Society of NZ Manawatu Branch**

**February 2017 Meeting @7.30 pm**

Tuesday, 21 February, PNCC Central Library, George Street,

**Antarctic Weather – Adventures on the Ross Ice Shelf**

**Speaker: Dr Ben Jolly, Landcare Research Ltd**

The harsh weather and remote nature of Antarctica creates challenging conditions for collecting in situ observations of any nature; however, meteorological observations pose several unique challenges. My thesis focused on the weather over the Ross Ice Shelf, a large floating mass of permanent ice approximately 4500 km due-south of Palmerston North. To investigate this, I helped to develop a new type of wirelessly networked Antarctic weather station, designed to be deployed in large numbers over a small area to provide weather observations with a high spatial resolution. After two years of testing and preliminary data gathering, we ran a larger campaign that deployed twenty stations over the summer events

and evaluate a widely-used weather forecasting model. Clouds can have a substantial impact on Antarctic weather and form an important part of the dynamical system. An additional piece of work investigated cloud cover using satellite observations with a 'reanalysis' (combined models/observations) dataset providing a connection to the surface conditions observed during our deployments.

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## **F&B MANAWATU BRANCH**

### **MARCH 2017 MONTHLY MEETING**

Tues, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 @ 7.30 p.m.

PNCC Library, Sound and Vision Zone, George Street entrance

### **Field studies and conservation of Antarctic and New Zealand penguins**



**Speaker:** Dr John Cockrem, Professor of Comparative Endocrinology,  
Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, Massey University

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

The Commemoration for Robert C. Bruce (RCB) is an event to which the public is invited. The occasion should appeal to those who are interested in Rangitikei history, conservation, and the contributions of a significant settler of his time

**AIM:** "To commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the death of Robert Cunningham Bruce - AB/seafarer, gold prospector, author, orator, Rangitikei settler & farmer, conservationist, benefactor, MHR Rangitikei 1884 - 1890 & 1892 - 1893"

**DATE:** 23 April 2017

**WHERE:** The Bruce Reserve, Turakina Valley opposite 'Ngaruru' the former home & farm property of Robert C. Bruce

More information to follow.

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## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DoC

### Meet our 2017 Blake Ambassadors



The next generation of Blake Ambassadors are contributing to DOC's work this summer. The Sir Peter Blake Trust have offered 12 placements, five of these with DOC.

The ambassadors will be working alongside leading scientists, conservators and rangers, gaining field experience in their chosen area of study.

### Successful start to the year for our newest kakī



The first 19 juvenile kakī/black stilt of the current breeding season were released onto the Tasman River in January.

Biodiversity Ranger Sam Haultain talks about this [milestone for the kakī recovery programme](#).

### The next Royal cam star is born



The wait is over for Royal cam fans! The albatross nest featured on our live web cam at Taiaroa Head on Otago Peninsula is now home to a new chick.

After a shaky start to life, the chick is doing well and growing bigger each day. If you've missed out on the action catch up with the [highlight reels](#) or read the [FAQ's](#) being answered by our rangers.

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

*Anthea*

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