



SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

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HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 65th BIRTHDAY AS A BRANCH

TREE PLANTING EVENT ON POUTOA WALKWAY

Sunday 3rd September, 2023 @ 10.00 a.m

ALL ARE WELCOME



Access to Poutoa Walkway from Summerhill Drive

Where: Poutoa Walkway

What to Bring: BYO morning tea,

- own spade for planting, gloves,
- sturdy footwear (could be muddy)
- and clothes appropriate for the conditions

For information about parking: Contact Margaret ph. 022 473 1096

September 2023 Monthly talk

Tuesday 12th September 2023 @ 7.30 p.m.

PN City Library, George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: **Birds of NZ - local beauties you may not know about –
Nankeen night heron**

Speaker: Paul Gibson, Whanganui Photographer



Photo: Paul Gibson ©
Unique Pictorials

Nankeen Night Herons –
an adult and this year's juvenile

Many of you know Paul Gibson's bird photography and books. He has kindly agreed to talk to us and will give us a highly illustrated talk about some local beauties that are very special to our area. With only about 50 birds in NZ, and only found along the Whanganui River, the Nankeen night heron is one of NZ's rarest breeding birds. For the first time in 28 years, we have found nests, and been able to photograph them from nest building to chick fledging. I will also add a little about a godwit with the flag AJD, the subject of a recent book.

Paul will have some of his books for sale at the meeting.

Books for sale (40% off retail): Cash preferred

- *BIRDS NZ beauty like no other 2nd edition* - \$40 - *FEATS BEYOND AMAZING* - \$20

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

If you would like to stay in touch, please sign up to our
Mailing list on our website: www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz

FOREST AND BIRD 2024 CALENDARS AND DIARIES

- We still have some calendars and diaries for sale.
- They will on sale at our September meeting or you could let me know by emailing me at manawatū@branch@forestandbird.org.nz



F&B NATIONAL OFFICE ITEMS

Health & Safety: Protect your volunteers from zoonoses

Zoonoses (diseases passed from animals to humans) are a known risk associated with trapping activities and handling of animal carcasses. You must consider the risk from zoonoses in your branch's activities and, if the risk exists for your branch, ensure that zoonoses are included in the relevant risk assessment(s). You must also inform your volunteers of the risk and how to protect themselves from it.

We have prepared some guidance here: [Leptospirosis Information Sheet](#) around leptospirosis, a zoonosis transmitted through contact with the urine of common pest species such as rats, mice, possums and hedgehogs.

An Opportunity of a Lifetime



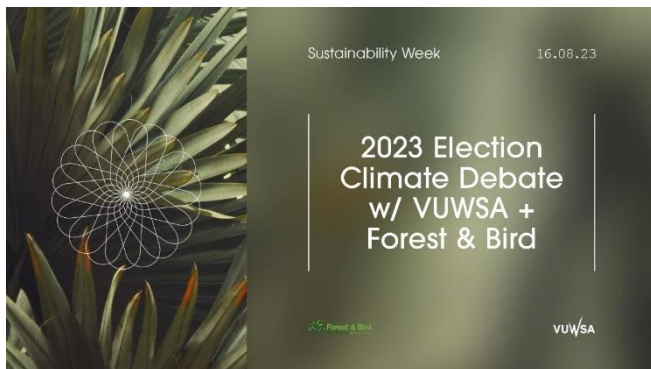
📷 : Steph Simon

A few weeks ago Parliament's Environment Committee released its report on cats, stating the following: "It recommends by majority to the government that legislation is developed to implement a nationwide cat management framework based on the principle that cats should be registered, desexed, and microchipped with appropriate exemptions." You can read the report [HERE](#).

This is the biggest opportunity in our lifetime to do something meaningful to both protect our cats, and our wildlife. Predator Free 2050 is an ambitious goal – our "Apollo mission" as Sir Paul Callaghan called it – yet it's decades away. Meanwhile, a Cat Management Act is an opportunity to do something now, at scale, and New Zealanders are behind it. It would be an egregious kick in the guts to animal welfare advocates, conservationists and cat owners alike, if a recommendation for an Act requiring responsible cat ownership were to be disregarded by the government.

The Predator Free NZ Trust have created a form to send a message to your local MP calling for the government to act: <https://predatorfreenz.org/cats/>
Please share this far and wide and let the government know that this issue matters to us.

Did you miss it? Election 2023 VUWSA Climate Debate



On 16 August, Forest & Bird partnered with Victoria University of Wellington's Student Association (VUWSA) to host an Election 2023 Climate Debate at the Hub on VUW's campus.

Moderated by Salient Co-Editor Maia Ingoe, the panellists were: Simon Court (ACT); James Shaw (Greens); Tāmami Coffey (Labour); Simon Watts (National); and Natalia Albert (TOP).

Catch up and hear how parties contesting the 2023 Election plan to tackle climate change!

[Watch here](#)

Bushy Park Tarapurahi Bus Trip

We are organizing a 40-seater bus to take us to Bushy Park and Homestead



Date: Saturday 25th November, 2023

Dept Time: 09.00 a.m.TBC, and return to Palmerston North about 4.30 p.m.

Cost: \$30 approx. plus \$15.00 for a cream tea in the Homestead (optional)

If you would like to express your interest in this trip, please email the Branch – Email: manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz, give your phone number and number of people

Upcoming Plastic Pollution Art exhibition

Regular visitors to the ENM office space may have noticed, a varied and accumulating pile of debris in the corner and asked the very valid question 'Why?' or very possibly 'What??' It does have a purpose; in the name of art and awareness around the health of our streams and awa.

These are items collected from various 2023 stream clean-ups which are going to be used as part of an art exhibition linked to the work of [Palmy's Plastic Pollution Challenge](#) taking place at [Square Edge Community Arts](#) from August 30 -25 September 2023. This has been made

possible in part with support from [Palmerston North City Council](#)'s Creative Communities Fund.

Regular Working Bees - Get your hands dirty!

[Dune Garden Working Bee.](#)

[Green Corridors Summerhill](#)

Help maintain corridors of native trees.

[A Rocha Nursery](#)

Growing natives from eco-sourced seed

[Apollo Butterfly Park](#)

Planting for Monarch butterflies, etc..

[Pit Park Roslyn](#)

A restored urban native bush habitat.

Most Sundays [Manawatū Estuary Trust](#)

Keeping exotic species out of the wetland.

Consultations - Have your Say

Horizons Regional Council -Active Projects

1. What is Oranga Wai | Our Freshwater Future?

<https://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/oranga-wai>

2. We want your feedback on three priority areas, via an easy survey.

This feedback will be used to help inform decisions prior to the 2024-34 Long-term Plan being formally consulted on in early 2024.

Go straight to the survey here:

<https://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/long-term-plan-2024-34>

I do hope I shall see you at our September monthly talk – it should be an interesting one.

I hope you are keeping warm.

Until next time

Anthea

Anthea McClelland

Chair, F&B Manawatū Branch

Manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz

