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JULY 2019

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July 2019 Monthly talk
Tuesday 9th July 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.
Palmerston North City Library,
George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: Kea in trouble: why being smart, inquisitive and hungry has led to the endangered status of a native New Zealand parrot

Speaker: Professor Brett Gartrell, Director of the Wildbase Research Centre, Massey



Kea are innovative problem solvers and ranked as one of the smartest species of bird in the world.

These cognitive abilities have been shaped by the resource-poor mountain habitat in which they evolved. These survival traits have put kea in direct conflict with the human colonisation of Aotearoa.

Research on kea has highlighted the many ways in which kea have struggled to co-exist with humanity and the current efforts being made to conserve this taonga species.

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

For more information about Forest & Bird go to:
www.forestandbird.org.nz

Forest and Bird Calendars and Diary

Now is the time to order your F&B 2020 Calendar and/or Diary. They will be on sale from our August 2019 Monthly Meeting. Please email manawatu.branch@forestandbird with your order, and we will have your order available at the August meeting for collection. We only accept cash or cheques.

New Zealand Conservation Calendar 2020



Featuring superb photographs of our extraordinary wildlife and wilderness habitats taken by some of our leading nature photographers.

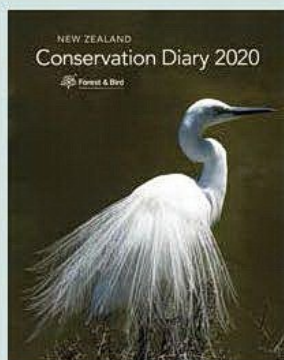
Weighs less than 200g for economic postage.

Envelope included.

Our Price: \$15.00



New Zealand Conservation Diary 2020



Our Price: \$20.00

Every week brings a new photograph of our unique landscapes, plants and wildlife. This quality week-to-view diary features public holidays, and a lay-flat spiral binding.

FOREST AND BIRD 2019 CONFERENCE/AGM

FYI

FOREST AND BIRD 2019-2020 BOARD

Mark Hanger- President

Kate Graeme – Vice President

Alan Chow - Treasurer

Monica Peters

Te Atarangi Sayers

Voted in at 2019 National AGM

Chris Barker

Ines Stäger

Richard Hursthouse

Stepped down from F&B Board

James Muir

John Oates



Jeanette Fitzsimons giving the Sanderson Memorial Speech at the F&B Sanderson Dinner and Tom Kay, Lower North Island Manager who was MC for the Saturday Conference

F&B Annual Awards presented at the Sanderson Dinner, Saturday 29th June, 2019 at Te Papa - Te Marae

Old Blue Award

Jenny Campbell – Southland Branch has been awarded Forest & Bird’s prestigious Old Blue award for her exceptional contribution to conservation over more than four decades.

Old Blue’ was the Chatham Island Black Robin who saved her whole species from extinction. Open to members and non-members this award recognises those who have made a significant contribution to advancing the Society’s objectives at a Branch level or through non-Society conservation work. Up to five awards are made each year

Branch Award

Ashburton - Forest & Bird’s Ashburton branch has been recognised for its outstanding efforts to protect and advocate for nature in Mid Canterbury by receiving the organisation’s annual branch award.

This award will recognise the hard work put in by Forest & Bird branches from across New Zealand - everything from controlling pest plants and animals, restoring native ecosystems, planting trees, or doing advocacy work. This new award has taken the place of our previous Pest Buster and Golden Spade award for predator and pest control. Branches are nominated by our Regional Managers.

Te Kaiārahi Rangatahi o te Taiao Youth Award

Sian Moffatt

Many young people undertake truly remarkable initiatives to protect and restore our unique natural environment, this award will recognise that special young person who shows leadership, initiative and who is making a difference.

EVENTS

Garden Bird Survey

Event date: 29 June - 7 July 2019

Birds are important indicators of the health of New Zealand's environment, and to help us discover and learn more about NZ garden birds, participate in this citizen science project. Learn more about the NZ Garden Bird Survey here - there are lots of activities and resources to keep everyone entertained.

Event link: <https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/science/plants-animals-fungi/animals/birds/garden-bird-surveys>

WORKING PARTIES

Tree Plantings at Keeble's Bush

Event date: Saturday 13 July, 10am-1pm

Event location: Keeble's Bush, Linton

Park at Keeble's pitched to sign in. Planned work is to plant up an area adjacent to the main bush which was fenced off a couple of years ago, because it was a bit too steep to farm. There are about 300 plants looking for homes, and these will serve to increase the functional area of the Bush. A moderate level of fitness is required, as the site includes sloping and uneven ground. Wear sturdy footwear, dress for the weather. Bring your own lunch, drink and snacks. Please bring a spade, and gardening gloves if you have them, but some will be available. Contact: Keith Young on kiuvenes@gmail.com.

Apollo Butterfly Park Working Bee

Event date: Sunday 14 July 2nd Sunday of each month 9 a.m. to 11a.m.

Event location: Apollo Park, Milson, Palmerston North 4414

The Plantings in Apollo Park are especially for overwintering Monarch butterflies and other species. Come and help out with a working bee to keep the park looking beautiful. Work includes weeding, planting and general maintenance. Please bring garden tools with you if you can; some spares are available if you can't

All welcome – there's a job for everyone! Stay for a cuppa afterwards.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

WAR OF THE WILD (broadcast on Monday 24 June)

This year our already threatened native species are at even greater risk because of what is called a mega mast when native forests seed heavily,

producing more food for both wildlife and predators. With pest numbers predicted to explode, we go up close and personal with wild kiwi to determine whether New Zealand really can achieve its goal of being predator free by 2050.

<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/shows/sunday/clips/war-of-the-wild>

BIRD ATLAS

Birds New Zealand is embarking on the country's largest ever citizen science project to map the distribution and abundance of our beautiful country's birds.

20 years have passed since the last atlas project was completed, and we are at a crossroads, a time of unprecedented change, our bird life is in a desperate situation. A myriad of threats are pushing many species to the brink of extinction. Our endemic birds are being forced into the remote back country, or predator free offshore island nature reserves.

For the first time in the history of the Atlas project, in partnership with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the New Zealand Bird Atlas will be a digital first project with checklists being submitted directly into the eBird app or eBird website: <https://birdatlas.co.nz/>

If you do not have a smartphone, or wish to write your sightings down in a notebook and then enter them from a PC, you can do that by going to <https://ebird.org/atlasnz/home> and follow the instructions from there. You will need to keep a record of when you started your observations, how long you took to make them (important if you made the observations from a stationary point), and approximately how far you walked, if you did so (I use Google Earth to measure the distance travelled in cases where I've not used the app). In all cases (using the app or entering your observations via a PC), you will need to create an eBird account the first time that you use eBird. This requires nothing more than your name, a self-selected user name and password, and your email address (in case there is a need to contact you over any submitted sightings).

If neither of those work for you at this stage, I attach a manual data entry form. The only confusing there is that the form asks for the number of the 10 x 10 km square in which you made your observations and/or the NZTM 7-digit easting and northing coordinates. Don't bother with those. Just give as precise a description as possible of where you made your observations (i.e., your address, if you want to record your Garden Bird Survey data in the Atlas), and I'll work out the details. Please send the form to me and I will enter it under my Birds New Zealand Whanganui Regional Representative account.

If you scroll further down the Atlas homepage, you will come to a Help page where there is a suite of resources to help you get started, including a comprehensive (60 pages!) handbook and a series of videos that explain different facets of the process. Please look through these and if you still have queries, contact me.

FOREST AND BIRD CURRENT CAMPAIGNS

Take Action on Climate Change

The Zero Carbon Act creates a plan for reducing our emissions.

A Zero Carbon Act will put us on the path to action by setting a target to make New Zealand carbon neutral. It will create carbon budgets that keep us on track to meet our target. It will also establish an independent Climate Change Commission to monitor our progress and hold the Government to account.

Join our call for the draft Zero Carbon Bill to be strengthened by adding your name to our submission.

HAVE YOUR SAY NOW! Show your support and click on the link:

<https://www.forestandbird.org.nz/petitions/support-strong-zero-carbon-bill>

SAVE OUR SEALIFE

Our ocean animals don't deserve to drown in their thousands – frightened and in pain – on commercial lines, hooks and in nets every year. If you're sick of the excuses and lies from New Zealand's fishing industry while they continue to trash our ocean, join us and sign the Zero Bycatch Pledge.

Click and sign our Zero Bycatch Pledge calling on the NZ Government to commit to a goal of zero bycatch

ADD YOUR VOICE – Click on the link: <https://www.forestandbird.org.nz/petitions/sign-zero-bycatch-pledge>

CONSULTATIONS

Have your say on the plan to protect Hector's and Māui dolphins.

Submissions close 4 August 2019

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2019/hectors-and-maui-dolphins-threat-management-plan-review/>

Preparation for Court of Appeal Hearing opposing seabed mining

Earlier this year, the Court of Appeal granted leave to appeal and to cross-appeal to the relevant parties, including TTRL, the Taranaki-Whanganui Conservation Board and other cross-appellants. A confirmed hearing date now been set for 24 – 26 September 2019.

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/statutory-and-advisory-bodies/conservation-boards/taranaki-whanganui/media-releases/preparation-for-court-of-appeal-hearing/>

Draft policy for the use of public space

<https://www.pncc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/draft-policy-for-the-use-of-public-space/>

We want our public space to play host to unique activities, increasing opportunities for social interaction and visible public life. We also want to protect our public spaces for everyone to access and enjoy.

Public space is any outdoor area under Council control, including the Square, Railway Land, reserves, parks, riverbanks, and verges.

The draft policy for the use of public space would guide how we manage applications for the use of public space (except casual and informal use, such as a picnic in the park). We're proposing a series of high-level guidelines that can apply to the full spectrum of activities.

We are also developing a draft venues policy. We will consult on that at a later date.

We want to hear from anyone who has a view about the draft policy. You're also welcome to appear before the Council and speak to your submission.

The consultation is open for feedback until 4pm on Monday 29 July.

- [Consultation document: Draft policy for the use of public spaces](#)

Francois Vallee

Newsletter Editor

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