



NOVEMBER 2019

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November 2019 Monthly talk
Tuesday 12th November 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.
Palmerston North City Library,
George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: "Kakapo on Anchor Island"

Speaker: Andrea Hirschberg, Dept.of Conservation



Andrea will talk about how she found herself on Anchor Island working with Kakapo. This year's bumper breeding season, combined with the impact Aspergillosis was having on the kakapo population on Whenua Hou, resulted in an SOS being sent out by the Kakapo Recovery team to the Biodiversity Monitoring team at the end of May. So, with less than 48 hours' notice I was off to Anchor Island to spend the next four weeks helping the Kakapo Recovery team with the increased workload. Chasing almost fully-grown kakapo chicks through thick vegetation, mud and rain became my new normal for a while.

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

F&B Manawatū November 2019 Monthly Trip

Trip still in preparation, please keep an eye on:

<http://www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz/events.html>

EVENTS

Stream Cleanup

Event date: Tuesday 19 November

Event location: Meet at the bridge on Highbury Ave (close to #125), near the Highbury shops.

[Te Ao Turoa](#), the environmental advisory office of Tanenuiarangi Manawatū, and [Smith & Sons Renovations and Extensions](#) will be collecting rubbish from Te Kawau Stream, that runs through Takaro and Highbury, before flowing under the Pioneer Highway and joining the Manawatū River. This working bee is part of [Palmy's Plastic Pollution Challenge](#), a citizen science project and waterway cleanup initiative.

Working Bee Celebration

Event date: Saturday 23 November

Event location: Edwards Pit Park, Roslyn

Join this Environmental Project with the **Palmerston North Interfaith Group**, weeding and tree release in the Pit Park.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Whanganui Botanical Group trip to Ashhurst

Event date: Sunday 17 November

Event location: Meet at the bridge on Highbury Ave (close to #125), near the Highbury shops.

In the meantime, for Nov 2019, another ad hoc trip. I'd mentioned to several of you that it would be good to return to Ashhurst Domain near the confluence of the Pohangina and Manawatu Rivers. My earlier suggested date doesn't work, so we'll go on Sunday 17 November. If you don't know the Domain, it's mostly flat, on two levels with a river terrace scarp between. We can drive right to the top level which is dry totara-kanuka forest on old gravels. If you don't want to scramble down the scarp, we can move cars to the lower terrace car park, which has a track into the swamp forest. I find it most interesting to explore two such different but adjoining forest types. Notable plants include the giant maidenhair fern (*Adiantum formosum*) and bamboo rice-grass (*Microlaena polynoda*) in the dry forest; swamp maire in the wet forest.

Meet and pool cars outside the police station in Bell St Whanganui at 8.30 am. Bring stout footwear (sneakers should be OK unless we get a lot of rain beforehand), drinks, lunches and, if you have them, hand lens, camera, binoculars.

Colin C Ogle



You can select up to 5 birds for Bird of the Year 2019

Te Manu Rongonui o Te Tau 2019

<https://www.birdoftheyear.org.nz/>

Our birds are wonderful. It's difficult to pick a Bird of the Year. Unfortunately, many of New Zealand's native birds are in crisis. About 75% of land birds and 90% of sea birds are either threatened or at risk of extinction if nothing is done to protect them. Their habitats are being destroyed or degraded, and sea birds are being caught by our commercial fishing industry. Predators such as stoats, possums, and rats eat their eggs, and kill young birds, and even adults. Forest & Bird's Bird of the Year recognises our unique birds and with each vote you give them a voice.

Many of us love more than one bird so this year you can vote for up to five birds. Just rank your birds from one to five. No hard decision making, now you can show your love to more than just one bird.

Find out more about our new voting system.

Voting opens at 9am on Monday 28 October and closes at 5pm on Sunday 10 November. You can take a closer look at our fantastic birds before voting starts.

December 2019 Annual Social Meeting
Tuesday 10th December 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
at the Manawaroa Pavilion (See map below)
Palmerston North Esplanade (behind the Café Esplanade)
(Please note the change in time and location)

Please join us for Christmas Treats –
Please bring some Christmas Treats to share

Talk: Katipō Spider (*Latrodectus katipo*)

Speaker: Arnim Littek



We are holding our December Social Meeting at the Manawaroa Pavilion (See map above) and Arnim Littek will be talking to us about Katipō spiders, which is an **endangered species** of **spider** native to **New Zealand**. Katipō are mainly found living in sand dunes close to the seashore. They are found throughout most of coastal New Zealand except the far south and west. The katipō is particularly notable in New Zealand as the nation is almost entirely devoid of dangerous native wildlife; this unique status means the spider is well known; despite being rarely seen.

After Arnim's talk we will celebrate the end of the Branch's year and the upcoming holidays

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

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