

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2018

It's been a busy and varied year for the project and the team. From the early days when everything was done from our kitchen table and the work was done by Bob and I to today when the project is home to over 4,000 kiwi's; a thriving population of bats and robins. A network of 1200 DOC-200 traps has killed 110 stoats and 1335 rats from Jan to Nov this year. Along with the 668 A24 rat traps, 340 A12 possum traps we are making a difference. This year Bob and I have been humbled to have received a number of awards for our work. We believe we are accepting on behalf of all of those involved with the project.

I will be spending more time at Purangi next year and hope to see many of you out there.

Merry Christmas.



Karen Schumacher
Chair
East Taranaki Environment Trust

Welcome to the Summer update of the Pūrangi Kiwi project.

What an exciting year we have had with the long awaited arrival of Kōkako into the project area and a kiwi population that is thriving.

One of our newest kiwi chicks has even had a "Royal" start to life! Read all about this Royal kiwi inside.

Don't forget to check out our 'what's on' section for an opportunity to win a **Special "Kiwi release experience"***



We wish you a safe and enjoyable
Christmas and New Year
Best wishes from the
Pūrangi Project Team



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Kōkako

It has been an exciting time for the project. We have had Sid Marsh an expert on kōkako and kiwi helping us locate the kōkako we released in June. Using pre-recorded song and starting at first light, we are delighted to let you know we found three pair of kōkako and another four single birds close to the release site. As well as hearing a number of others.

It's great news they settled in the middle of where we do our important predator control work. We felt the birds were showing signs of nesting – which is a little earlier than expected. They were being stealthy and a little sneaky which made them harder to find!

Sid and our ranger Blair also heard long-tailed cuckoo, Karearea (our NZ falcon) and an abundance of north island robin. The forest is also coming to life with the palatable plant species. The podocarps including rimu, totara, miro, matai and kahikatea are an excellent source of food and in Sid's view the best habitat he's seen for kōkako in the north island. We are thrilled!



Kiwi

October was National Save Kiwi month and we had an extra special "Royal" end to the month.

Whilst on our search for two faulty transmitters Bob and Blair discovered two of our kiwi had eggs close to hatching.

Kiwi are known to abandon their nests when disturbed and so a hurried trip was made to Rotorua with the eggs to ensure their best chance at survival.

Redwoods chick hatched a few weeks later, just in time for a visit from Prince Harry and Meghan Markle Duchess of Sussex!

The Royals were given the opportunity to name our kiwi and chose "Tihei" from the saying 'Tihei mauri ora' which means the "sneeze" or "breath of life".

Tihei will stay at Rotorua until reaching his/her safe weight of 1000 grams. And then will be returned home to our project area



What's on

Pūrangi Kiwi Project Exhibition

We are very excited to announce the opening of our exhibition space in Puke Ariki.

Pūrangi – A home for native species opened on 29th November.

The exhibition showcases our kiwi and bats in a fun interactive way; our precious hut book has also been digitised onto large screen along with some great interviews of Bob, Karen, Sid Marsh and Jo Sims.

We hope you take the opportunity to check it out over the coming months! Upstairs gallery, Puke Ariki.

Photography Contest – Get snapping!

For the month of January Pūrangi Kiwi Project are running a photography competition!

Head out to Pūrangi and take your best shots.

There are two categories: **Flora and Fauna** and **People getting back to nature**. Send us your shots by 5pm 31st January 2019.

The category winners will be invited to special "kiwi release experience" after January (for up to 4 people).

Entry is \$10 per photo. Full contest details and entry form will available on the website and advertised on our facebook page from 21st December.

Our Walkways: Otunahe and Hidden Valley are now open!

Pack a picnic and take the family out to Pūrangi for a walk in the beautiful natural environment

All donations go back into the project to help our kiwi and other native birds to thrive!



How can you help?

Support our kiwi by sponsoring one of our monitored birds like Murf, Redwood Jim or Baccy. For a donation of \$100 you will receive a Sponsorship certificate that you can proudly display!

CREST award

CONGRATULATIONS to Egmont Village School students'.

The Year 7 and 8 students at Egmont Village School received a CREST Award from Curious Minds, the first given in the country, for their work on their "Bug Alert" project.

CREST is a Royal Society Te Apārangi programme where students are given authentic experiences in science, technology and environmental studies. We are thrilled to have worked with Egmont Village on this programme.



The studies looked at whether a change in wetland vegetation changed the number and variety of aquatic macro-invertebrates (insects without a backbone that are big enough to be seen) and terrestrial invertebrates, including worms.

New Chief Executive

Those coming into our office will see a new face.

We are thrilled to welcome Brent Woodhead on Board as our new Chief Executive.

Brent has made the move from TSB where he was General Manager of Marketing.

Brent says: "I'm very excited about joining the project. I have the opportunity to lead an amazing team who are making a real difference for the flora and fauna of Aotearoa. I have the privilege of building on the amazing work Karen and Bob have done – in particular with Kiwi but now with the Kokako project".

This will give Karen and Bob breathing space. Both remain involved in the project. Karen is currently the Chair of the Trust and will remain in that position. "For us this is the next stage for the project as the work and project grows. I am looking forward to spending more time out at Pūrangi as well as supporting Brent and the team." says Karen.



Volunteers

Kaye Corlett joined the team as volunteer for the pre-school education this year and has been actively helping us promote the pre-school programme – even as far afield as Wellington! - Thanks Kaye, it is great to have you on the team.

"Although I have only been working for the trust this year I have enjoyed a variety of experiences.

Mainly I work in pre-schools and junior classes to educate children about kiwi. I always try to get the message through to children, parents and teachers that we have to help so these youngster's children and grandchildren will be able to say "Yes, we have kiwi living in our forest and bush." I thoroughly enjoy sharing knowledge about kiwi to the future guardians of our land."



<http://www.purangikiwi.co.nz/support-us/volunteer/>

The new Volunteers year calendar is online. Register now for the coming season.

Our Board of Trustees

We thank our wonderful Trustees for their support and input over the past year.

Our Trustees volunteer their time to drive the overall leadership and strategy of the Trust. Their passion for the project, belief and commitment is a critical to the ongoing success of the project.

New Board Member: Anaru Marshall was elected onto the board in October. In his other roles Anaru is the Relationship and Development Manager for Wise Better Homes and the lead treaty negotiator for Ngati Māru. Welcome onto the board Anaru.

Farewell: Neil Phillips and Bryce Barnett. The project team thank you both for your valuable contribution and support over the past years.

Our ETET Trust Board are:

Chair: Karen Schumacher

Deputy Chair: Roy Weaver

Trustees: Philip Armitstead, Gavin Faull, Juliet Larken and Anaru Marshall.



Supporters

To all the wonderful supporters of our project over 2018!

Whether it was by your volunteering, or by sponsorship and donations for talks, walkways, or the sponsoring of our traps and our kiwi and kokako.

We appreciate each and every one of you!

If you would like to learn of ways that you can support the project please visit our website:

www.purangikiwi.co.nz

Special Thanks to our project sponsors and supporters:

Sponsors

Major sponsor: kōkako project



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**Kiwi centre office hours
Over the holiday period**
Friday 21st December 9-1pm is
our last day for 2018
Reopening Monday 14th
January 2019 at 9am

We are taking a break