

DECEMBER, 2015 NEWSLETTER

Season's Greetings

F&B DECEMBER MEETING Manawatu Branch Annual Social

TUESDAY, 8th December, 2015

Please join us for "Coffee and Dessert (Christmas Treats)

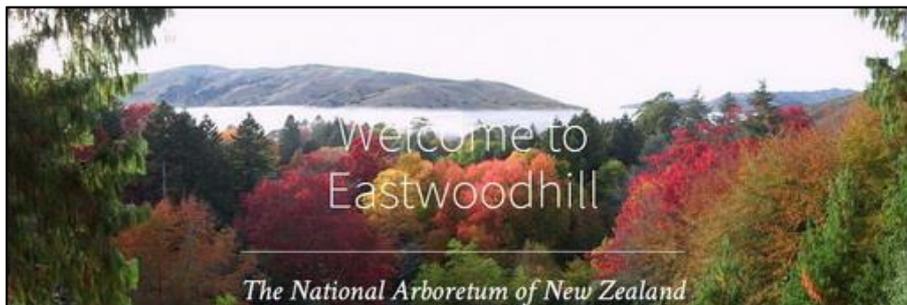
Time: 7.00p.m. -

Where: Education Centre, Palmerston North Esplanade (opposite duck pond)

Please bring some Christmas Treats to share

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME AND LOCATION

We will start with a short presentation about:



Eastwoodhill, National Arboretum of New Zealand By Alex & Jenny Davies

Alex and Jenny will talk about their impressions from two recent visits, to this special place.

Eastwoodhill Arboretum is the National Arboretum of New Zealand and encompasses over 135 hectares planted with a massive range of exotic and native trees, shrubs and climbers. The founder, Douglas Cook, made the first plantings in 1910, established his special tree groupings ('parks') in 1927, and by his death in 1967 had created what is

regarded as the largest and most comprehensive collection of Northern Hemisphere trees south of the equator.

It is located 35 km NW of Gisborne.

Most famous for the riot of colour in the autumn, a visit is worthwhile any time of the year. Parts of the terrain are steep, but there is a maze of paths and tracks of suit all levels of exploration.

EVENTS & WORKING PARTIES - DECEMBER, 2015 & JANUARY, 2016

Thursday, 10th December - Pest management workshop

TIME: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Davis Lecture Theatre - Whanganui Regional Museum, Watt Street, Whanganui

Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board are hosting a free public workshop on pest management - join them for an informative evening with presentations from four expert speakers and discussion about pest management techniques and technologies:

- Pest control methods in the Whanganui National Park, how we got to where we are now - Bill Fleury, DOC biodiversity planner
- Current pest control measures undertaken by DOC in the Kia Whārite Biodiversity Project - Dr Rachael Abbott, DOC Whanganui senior biodiversity ranger
- Biodiversity management and monitoring on kawenata - Jason Taiaroa, Ngā Whenua Rāhui
- Trialling predator eradication in Bottle Rock peninsula, Marlborough Sounds - Phil Bell, Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP).

Light refreshments supplied.

RSVP to Les Judd, Email: ljudd@doc.govt.nz Phone: (06) 349 2162

Sunday 13th December, 2015 - Apollo Butterfly Park Working Bee

TIME: 09.00 -11.00 a.m.

WHERE: Apollo Park - Apollo Parade, Milson, Palmerston North

Come and help out with a working bee to keep the Butterfly Park looking beautiful. Work will include weeding, planting and general maintenance. Please bring garden tools with you, if you can. Entrance is off Apollo Parade, Palmerston North.

Sunday 10th January, 2016 - Apollo Butterfly Park Working Bee

0900 -11.00 a.m.

Details as above

Thursday 28th January - Organic Vege Gardening Master Class

TIME: 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Growing heaps of fresh, abundant veges organically is all about holistic garden design and management.

This workshop focuses on market gardening techniques that allow maximum production with minimal inputs. Topics include layout, no-dig design, compost, tools, rotation, successive planting, garden hygiene and ergonomics. It is intended for intermediate and advanced level gardeners.

Open only to residents who pay rates to Palmerston North.

Contact nelson.lebo@pncc.govt.nz.

Location to be advised upon registration.

Sunday 31st January, 2016 - Waitoetoe Park working bee

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

WHERE: Waitoetoe Park

This totara forest remnant forms part of the riverside walkway.

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.

Vale John Sawyer B.Sc. (Hons) (Southampton) 1 November 1968 - 6 November 2015

Some of you may already know, but very sadly John Sawyer passed way suddenly while staying at the family home on the Island of Mull.



Below is an extract of his obituary in the NZ Conservation Plant Network Newsletter

“John Sawyer left his mark in New Zealand mostly by his publications and his tireless work with the fledgling New Zealand Plant Conservation Network and New Zealand Ecological Society.

*Although he was never a keen plant collector, he contributed 124 mostly Chatham Islands specimens to the Auckland Museum Herbarium (AK) and helped collect two type specimens, *Lepidium oligodontum* de Lange et Heenan (P.J. de Lange CH378 & J.W.D. Sawyer, Western Reef, AK 294925) and *L. rekohuense* de Lange et Heenan (P.J. de Lange CH405A,B,C, J.W.D. Sawyer & A. Baird, Chatham (Rekohu) Island, Kaiangaroa Point, AK 295129, AK 295130, AK 295131).*

He was an excellent companion in the field, kept meticulous notes, enjoyed music, reading, fine wine and cooking. With John’s passing, conservation has lost one of its great innovators.”

For the full obituary, please click

http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/newsletter_search.aspx?scfSubmit=1

and click on E-Newsletter No: 144

2016 - WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO

F&B Monthly Meetings - We plan to have talks about:

Marine mammals

Moa of the Manawatu

Beech Mast

Forest Invertebrates

F&B Trips - We are planning to start Trips again.

- **Sat 30th January - Bushy Park (a guided tour)** (This is trip was cancelled due to weather in October).
- February, we hope to **Archie's Track, Sutherlands Bush, Rangitikei**. This is a new track created by F&B Rangitikei.
- After that, we are planning trips associated with the topic of the Monthly Meeting

F&B Hosted Manawatu Gorge Walks

We anticipate starting the hosted Gorge Walks late January. I will advise everyone, once we have all the i's dotted and t's crossed.

ITEMS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU

Exciting news! Inaugural Forest & Bird scholarship

Forest & Bird is excited to be partnering with Victoria University of Wellington to offer a new undergraduate scholarship in 2016.

We hope that the recipient will become an important part of Forest & Bird, perhaps one of our up and coming conservation leaders. This scholarship will help outstanding young conservationists bridge the gap between high school conservation activities, and a conservation career

If you know of a candidate who might be interesting they can apply directly to Victoria University.

[Further details about the scholarship itself and how to apply can be found here.](#)

OR: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/student-finance/scholarships/find-scholarship/scholarship-detail?detailCode=501022>

Strategic Plan



Nature is our greatest treasure. Every day New Zealanders are physically, emotionally and economically enriched by the natural environment in which we live. Protecting and restoring this taonga is a profoundly important responsibility for us all. We love our natural environment for its intrinsic value. We

believe we must leave a healthier, more resilient natural world as the foundation for our Society, our children and future generations.

Developed with input from members, supporters and experts, this Strategic Plan looks ahead five, ten and twenty five years - identifying conservation goals that will protect and restore nature in New Zealand. Working with individuals and communities, we will achieve our vision of a future where ecological resilience is at the heart of everything we do.

Click on the link for the full strategic Plan
<http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/strategicplan>

- **Whanganui Summer programme**

Is now open for bookings you can download the programme from www.whanganuinz.com

- **Critter of the Week.** Lastly, this link will enable you to listen to some fascinating facts. <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/afternoons>

Nicola Toki has a weekly slot on Jesse Mulligan's Afternoons show on National Radio, usually at about 1:30 pm on a Friday. Nikki says



"Jesse's main criteria are that I pick things to talk about which are the opposite of our charismatic megafauna (uncharismatic microfauna?)."

"So far we have traversed the wonders of Archey's frogs, knobbed weevils, bat flies, Canterbury mudfish and leaf-veined slugs. I'm always keen on possible critters to discuss, so if you have a species that you feel doesn't get enough kudos, let me know, and I'll try to get it on National Radio."

Nicola Toki both the New Zealand's first Threatened Species Ambassador for the Dept. of Conservation and also Wildbase Recovery Ambassador

I and the Manawatu Committee wish you a Happy Christmas and all the very best for 2016

Anthea

Anthea McClelland

Chair, Forest and Bird Manawatu Branch

Manawatu.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz

You are all warmly invited to the book launch for Emeritus Professor John Flenley's recently published book "Trees, Trees, Trees!"

This book is not just about trees but about climate change which, as you will know, is under discussion at Paris right now.

John is a member of ENM group A Rocha Manawatu, part of the international Christian Conservation organisation. The local branch has focused on growing native trees for local projects. John was leader of that group for many years, retiring from that role two years ago.

If you have a chance, come along to show your support for John and the tremendous amount of work he has done for our environment. And please feel free to forward this invitation to others you think could be interested.

The launch will be held Monday Dec 14th at 4pm at AgHort Level 1, Massey University, Turitea Campus. Please RSVP by Tuesday Dec 8th. See attached flier for more details.

