

Forest & Bird – Taupo Branch, PO Box 1105, Taupo 3351

17 January 2017

Dear Members – happy new year to you all! Here's the plan for the next few months:



### AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Taupo branch of Forest & Bird will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 4 April 2017 at Reap, 73 Titiraupenga Street. Guest speaker – Joris de Bres. Joris was External Relations Manager for DOC for 10 years and later Race Relations Commissioner. Now chair of Project Crimson, which has launched 'Trees that Count' hoping that in 2017 one tree is planted for every New Zealander – that's 4.7 million trees. One motivation behind the initiative is to address climate change. See <http://www.treesthatcount.co.nz/> Light supper provided. \$5 at the door.



### Field trips

**Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari** – a day trip on Saturday 18 February 2017 <http://www.sanctuarymountain.co.nz>  
Maungatautari is an area of ancient forest with the world's longest pest-proof fence. It offers a sanctuary for populations of many of NZ's most endangered species – birds, bats, frogs, reptiles, tuatara and giant weta.

Depart Taupo 7am for 1½ hour drive. (It is good to get there early.) Guided walk (\$20) and shared transport (\$15 for the driver). Bring your lunch, and clothes for all possible weathers. If we have to cancel because of poor weather, the back-up date is 25 February. If you are interested in joining us, ring Laura before 13 Feb – 378 5975.

**Eastwoodhill Arboretum near Gisborne** – a weekend trip on 5-7 May 2017 <http://www.eastwoodhill.org.nz>

This beautiful place is the national arboretum of New Zealand and encompasses over 131 hectares planted in exotic and native trees, shrubs and climber plantings. The collection was planted by Douglas Cook and is regarded as the largest and most comprehensive collection of Northern Hemisphere trees south of the equator.

Travel – 4½ hours drive. We will stay Friday and Saturday nights at Eastwoodhill, explore the arboretum, and possibly also visit Hackfalls, another arboretum nearby. Group of 10 max. If you are interested, ring Pam – 378 8079.



**Weeding at Whakaipo Bay** – 9-11am, Sunday 19 March – followed by coffee and a chat at Café L'Arte. Bring secateurs, choppers and loppers. Poison supplied by DoC.

### Consider also:



**Music in the Reserve** – 11-2pm, Sunday 12 March. Search Facebook for Waipahihi Botanical Reserve for news about the Reserve and updates on the Music Day.



**Join the Greening Taupo Wicked Weeders** – they go out round the district every Tuesday at 1pm for a couple of hours of weed-killing. Contact Robyn Ellis at [info@greeningtaupo.org.nz](mailto:info@greeningtaupo.org.nz)



### Greening Taupo planting days with the Vegetator Venell Team

22 April, 21 May and 18 June – on the Thermal Explorer Highway. Look out for details in The Taupo Times, on radio, at [www.greeningtaupo.org.nz](http://www.greeningtaupo.org.nz) or contact [info@greeningtaupo.org.nz](mailto:info@greeningtaupo.org.nz).



### Winter talks

The winter talks were a great success and we will present another series this winter. If you have any suggestions of possible speakers, ring Neil – 378 3530.

Best regards

Your Taupo Committee (Neil Baxter, Laura Dawson, Pam James, Trevor Hunt and Jane Battersby)

You have received this newsletter because you supplied Forest & Bird with your contact details. If you do not wish to receive messages from us, ring Jane – 378 5968.