

**ROYAL
FOREST AND
BIRD
PROTECTION
SOCIETY –
NORTHERN
BRANCH**

PO Box 1375
Whangarei 0140



Monthly Rambles are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month (See inside for 6 month calendar)

Annual Fundraising – Sales of Calendars

Orders must be secured by June to obtain discounted price
Contact: Diane 4386636

Quote:

“Nature provides a free lunch, but only if we control our appetites”.

*William Ruckelhaus,
Business Week
18/06/1990.*

Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society
Northern Branch
Newsletter No. 1 – January – July 2013

Greetings from the Northern Branch.

This newsletter and Rambles Calendar is compiled six monthly. We hope to inform, educate and give opportunities to engage with other members by providing you with interesting information about walks we have been on and to have regular get-togethers.

Each newsletter we will feature previous Rambles we have been on to whet your appetite in the hope you will come and join our friendly group and explore the great outdoors.

The Social Committee are also collating a comprehensive list of places to go and the best time to visit to see certain plants at their best or flowering times. If you have information to share please get in touch.

Any member can at any time apply to the general committee, social sub-committee or the finance subcommittee to be a member of that committee. Because there is no requirement to hold an AGM there will not be any formal election of officers. Just write a letter to PO Box 1375 to the committee and that committee will consider it.

We have received monies from a bequest from Trevor Ernest Sowry Estate and the outline for the handling of this will be in the Financial Statement to be presented in May. The electronic way of holding meetings has considerably reduced our costs.

It is noted that we have spent money on stoat traps, the Bird recovery centre, AGM advertising and room rent, honorarium, PO box rent, wetlands plantings, mining meetings, science fair prizes, fairy tern donation, Te Arai Preservation Society, Pukenui Trust, Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust fencing.

Contact Details:

Secretary/Treasurer:

Bev Woods 09 556 0131

Committee:

Diane Lee 09 438 6636 evngs

Greg & Heather Stump 09 432 1169

Roberta Jones 09 432 7329

David Lourie

Sub-committees:

Finance and Social

If you would like to join us on any of these committees, please drop us a line to PO Box 1375.

FEATURED RAMBLE : Bratty's Bush

Located on Pukenui Road, Ngunguru. Head up Waiotoi Road and take the left fork to continue up the hill.

This DOC reserve is sign posted on the right hand side of the road about one kilometre from Waiotoi Road. The entry is the steepest part, down off the road and over a style and follow the markers down through eucalyptus trees. It has a large variety of trees, shrubs and ferns. There is a large grove of Kauri and if you go at the right time of the year (Dec-Jan) you may be lucky to see the smallest orchid in the world in flower. You have to know what you're looking for, but fortunately there are plenty here.



RAMBLES DATES – FEBRUARY TO JULY 2013

**FIELD TRIPS :- Normally leave from the corner of Mill Road & Deveron Street – 9am unless otherwise stated. Take warm clothing, wet weather protection, tools if required and suitable footwear. Bring lunch and drinks. We share transport and contribute 10c per km to the driver (there and back). A donation of a gold coin (for non-members) to the Trip organiser, goes towards our local branch funds. PLEASE PHONE THE TRIP LEADER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.*

9th FEBRUARY BREAM HEAD

Start at Peach Cove Carpark approx 9.45am. Walk up to the ridge, lunch at high point then trek to Oceans Beach (Swim). Carpool back to Carpark.

Leader : Carol Fielding 436-2003

9th MARCH NGAHAU BAY

Helena Bay area – Explore the beach and have a swim if you wish.

Leader: Ina May 436-0730

13th APRIL MATAPOURI TO WHALE BAY

Leader: Jill Hudson 434-3416

11th MAY TAHERE RESERVE / FALLS

A lovely piece of bush just outside the city.

Leader: Lesley Jewell 438-5875

8th JUNE DRAGONFLY SPRINGS WETLAND SANCTUARY –

Raumati Cres, Onerahi.

Or WHANGAREI BIRD RECOVERY CENTRE – Tour of the Centre by Robert & Robyn Webb.

Leader: Diane Lee 438 6636

13TH JULY WHANGAREI FALLS

Leave from Mair Park and make our way thru to the Whangarei Falls.

Leader: Ina May 436-0730

Or Jill Hudson 434-3416

Rambles will be advertised in The Northern Advocate, The Whangarei Report and the Whangarei Leader prior to the ramble. Please feel free to pass on information to non-members and encourage them to join us.

Planned Overnight Stay Trip later in the year (Spring). If you are keen to venture a bit further afield please let us know your interest. Also if you have been somewhere interesting lately that you think would be suitable, again contact us.

OTHER INTERESTING EVENTS HAPPENING IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS:

EXPERIENCING MARINE RESERVES – SNORKEL DAYS, - Marine Reserve, Reotahi Beach. February 3rd, March 3rd and 16th. Also Kayak excursions in Waikaraka on March 16th and 17th.

Visit website: www.emr.org.nz for more information

OPEN DAY AT TAHI ESTATE, - Pataua North, March 30th

4th MAY – NORTHERN BRANCH GET-TOGETHER

Presentation of Annual Financial Statement to members.

10am at Amici Restaurant in Quality Street, Whangarei.

SUBMISSIONS FOR DRAFT CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY –

If you want to make a submission please look up the website www.doc.govt.nz/cms. Submissions close on Friday 15 March.

ASSISTANCE PLEASE

'Do you go the vegetation recycling centre sometimes with a half-filled trailer? If so, would you mind taking along some bags of weeds from the Maly Reserve, Hatea Drive? Please phone Ina May -436 0730.'

2014 CALENDAR & DIARY ORDERS.

I know it's early and you have only just started the year, but we want to ensure that we can get the calendars and diaries at the reduced cost for you.

We will be ordering a limited stock for next year and so could we ask you to let us know if you want to support our branch early to establish how many we need to get.

PRE-ORDERS FOR 2014 CALENDARS AND DIARIES: Get your order in early.

TO ORDER : Please Ph. Diane Lee (438 6636) - BEFORE END OF JUNE

ORDER FORM FOR ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD CALENDARS AND DIARIES FOR 2014

NAME: _____

PH/EMAIL: _____

CALENDARS @ \$12

DIARIES @ \$22

Please send a cheque made out to
Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society – Northern Branch
for the amount, along with this slip,
to Forest and Bird, PO Box 1375, Whangarei