

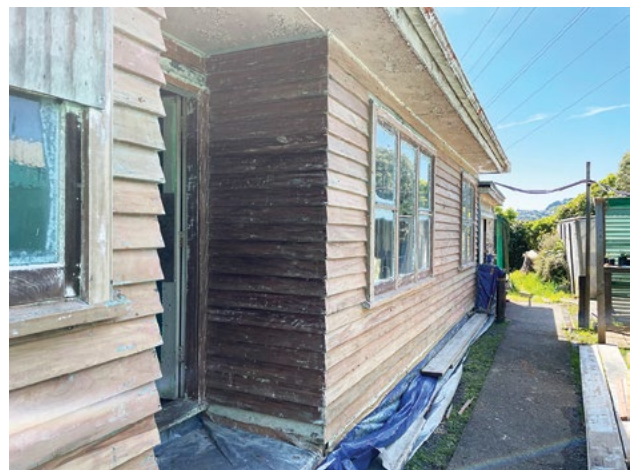
NurseryNews

AN UPDATE FROM THE FOREST & BIRD NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION PROJECT (HIGHBURY & WAINUIOMATA)

SPRING 2024

The big news from the Nursery is that after a stuttering start, work has finally begun on the house renovations. The first job is to strip off the lead-based paint, which is being done by professionals. That will be followed by repairs and then we will do the painting ourselves. All volunteer painters should let Richard know they're keen to help. There will be some disruption to normal activities but we hope not too much.

Meanwhile, we've had a nasty wintery patch of weather but as October progresses, things seem to be warming up and it feels like the warmer seasons are on their way.



The work gets going. Below: the little porch has been removed prior to the works. Top right shows the state of the existing paintwork and right we can see some of the progress that has been made so far in removing the paint.



For further information contact Richard (fbnurserywn@gmail.com) or Gary (mistletoe1957@gmail.com)



LYN CLARK

As mentioned on the previous page, October brought some very challenging weather: cold, wet and windy. Our resident illustrator, Lyn, was motivated to apply her skills after a miserable Tuesday session.

Ratbags strike again



We send our sympathy to Northern Community Gardens, whose shade house was burnt down at the beginning of September in what was most likely an arson attack. The shade house was completely destroyed, along with plants and equipment. We've had our own challenges with vandalism, but nothing on this scale.

Off they go

The final counts are in for this year.

- Total plants distributed = 8532
- This includes over 700 flaxes, almost 500 nikau and 300 cabbage trees.
- 35 groups received plants.

Another good year. Well done, everyone.

FAUNA CORNER

Trapping news

Tahi, who has been monitoring the rat traps has moved to Hataitai and can't get round as often, so we're looking for another trapper to assist and co-ordinate with Tahi, checking the 20 or so traps (with a warning that the route has some steep sections).

Kaka housing

Most affected by the works on the house is the pair of kaka who nested in the roof space at breeding time last year. They are not happy to have been ousted from their chosen spot and have been seen trying to break in to their old home. We hope they'll find a suitable alternative.



Was this the critter eating our Toru?



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A mega Tuesday morning tea



Housekeeping

At the risk of stating the obvious, the box saying **CLEAN LABELS** is for clean labels, the box saying **DIRTY LABELS** is for dirty labels. The concept is a fairly simple one. Some people spend quite a bit of time cleaning dirty labels so that we have clean ones for labelling plants. It would be great if dirty labels could be put in the **DIRTY LABELS** box for cleaning so that they don't make the clean labels dirty.

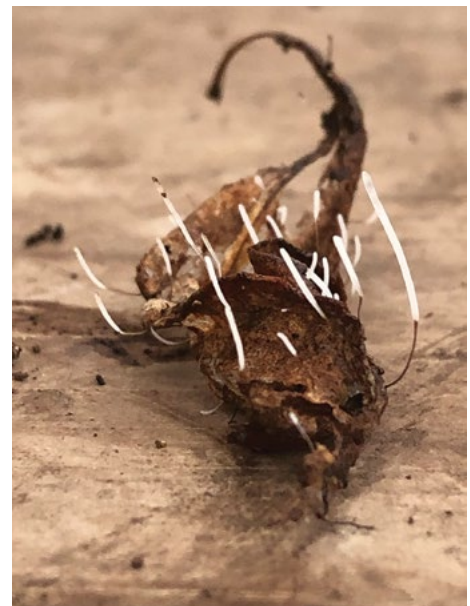
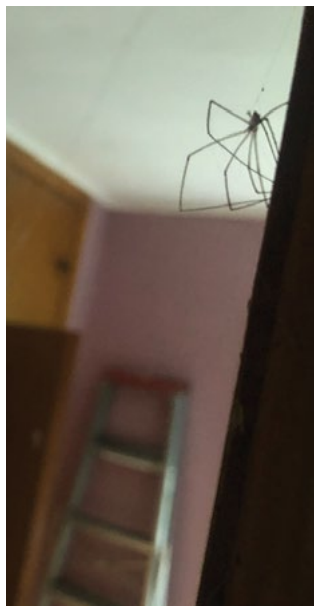


A sunny weekend session



Ann and Karen have both been away for a bit. Good to have them back in the potting shed on a sunny Sunday.

Modern art ... ?



... or is it spring cleaning time at the Nursery (left)? Right: Slime mould fruiting bodies on a dead leaf.

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