

NurseryNews

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

SUMMER 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025

to everyone and **thank you** for all your hard work in 2024

2,921 voluntary hours were worked at the Nursery during 2024, not including many hours put in by Richard, Gary, Peter, Chris and others outside standard Nursery hours. A total of **8,582** plants were distributed.



Weather woes

Unlike a year ago, when we were facing serious watering restrictions, Wellington's current summer is officially the worst on record, and while the rain is good, a bit of warm will be appreciated by everyone.

Renovations to the outside of the house are just about at the painting stage. Rotten wood has been replaced, windows fixed, guttering sorted, new soffits, etc. And the rubbish has been cleared away. Once we have an estimate of the amount of paint needed, we'll procure some from somewhere and get on with the final task.



It was a beautiful November day when we went plant collecting on the Koromiko Track Southern Extension in the bush above the Crofton Downs subdivision.



Happy plants: The *Geniostoma ligustrifolium* var. *ligustrifolium* otherwise known as hangehange, growing happily in the sunshine.

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

News from Wainuiomata



Above are approximately 400 matagouri, *discaria toumatou*, that have been grown for Baring head.



Above (left) shows the standing-out area; shade cloth shows how much the area has expanded; (right) two stands are in the new expanded standing-out area; the stands will be surrounded with a wind cloth curtain to help protect plants that are palatable to deer; and (left) shows tree fuchsia freshly potted up into PB8 bags, destined for Waiu wetland.



Wainuiomata Nursery 2024

- 803 volunteer hours worked
- 472 cubic metres of irrigation water used
- a total of 80 volunteers have helped out
- 2,682 plants have been distributed
- 5 different community projects received plants



It's great news that kiwi are now living in the bush around Wellington. It's less great that people are still not keeping their dogs on a lead. We see this often when we're out collecting plants. Typical excuses: *My dog doesn't catch anything, My dog is too old to hunt, My dog wouldn't do that, etc., etc.* Very disappointing.

Looking for something to do?

These scavenger hunts are free for your whānau to complete anytime. You'll need to work together to explore the park and follow the clues!

Battle Hill Explorer Scavenger Hunt

Battle Hill Farm Forest Park ■ **Fri 06 Dec 2024 – Mon 31 Mar 2025** ■ **6am–8pm every day** ■ **Free**
<https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/events-and-meetings/battle-hill-explorer-scavenger-hunt/>

Kaitoke Explorer Scavenger Hunt

Kaitoke Regional Park ■ **Fri 06 Dec 2024 – Mon 31 Mar 2025** ■ **6am–9pm every day** ■ **Free**
<https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/events-and-meetings/kaitoke-explorer-scavenger-hunt/>