



*July/Hurae Issue 2021*

*Helping protect and  
restore the indigenous  
biodiversity of the Ottawa  
Sanctuary Area...*

 **INSIDE**

> Discover work days, kiwi spotted at Te Whakakaha, trapping & more!

**ARE THERE KIWI**  
*at the Ottawa Sanctuary?*

# Otawa Sanctuary Planting Day

We have an awesome planting work day coming up this month and we would love for you to join us. We are going to be planting 1,000 trees at the Ottawa Sanctuary and as you can imagine that means we need as many hands as we can get! If you would like to come along, we have the details below, on our website & on our Facebook page @tewhakakaha.

**Where:** Ottawa Sanctuary  
1254 No 3 Road, Te Puke  
**Date:** 24th of July 2021  
**Day:** Saturday  
**Time:** 9:00am

This is a great opportunity for families to share a day out in this special place and help the Te Whakakaha Trust in its work to restore the natural vegetation to the old quarry site. Larger podocarp trees will be planted under the existing canopy of smaller trees that have been put in the ground over the last 5 years.



Dress warm bring your water bottle and spade if you have one. delicious sausage sizzle will follow this day to show our appreciation to all of the awesome volunteers. Trees supplied by Trees That Count. For more information contact Ann / Jim via email: [tewhakakahatrust@gmail.com](mailto:tewhakakahatrust@gmail.com). See you there!



## Young Volunteers



Volunteering helps teens gain new skills necessary for the job market such as leadership, communication skills, dependability, time management, and decision making.

We are gladly seeing more and more young volunteers getting their hands dirty and getting stuck in with us.

- Volunteering combats depression
- Volunteering makes you happy
- Volunteering increases self-confidence.
- Volunteering provides a sense of purpose.

The benefits of volunteering can be enormous. Volunteering offers vital help to people in need, worthwhile causes, and the community, but the benefits can be even greater for you, the volunteer. The right match can help you to find friends, connect with the community, learn new skills, and even advance your career.

If you feel like you want to volunteer with us, please sign up on our website: [www.tewhakakahatrust.org.nz/get-involved](http://www.tewhakakahatrust.org.nz/get-involved)

# Wandering Kiwi Captured at Ottawa Sanctuary

Kaiarahi is a single sub adult female that has not yet settled into a territory at Otanewainuku and is still in the wandering stage that most sub adult kiwi go through.

She has had a few excursions outside the protected 1200ha of DOC forest that sits south west of the farmland at the top end of No 3 road - Te Puke.

Her latest walk was along the Otanewainuku - Ottawa trig track.

Her transmitter signal was picked up from a couple of points, No 2 Rd and Harray Rd late on 21/6/21 - putting her in the forest above the farms in the No 3 road, Demeter road area.

With some very useful advice and assistance from Larry O'Neill, Te Whakakaha Trustee, Kaiarahi was found not far from the Ottawa track directly above Larry's farm.

A big thankyou to Larry and the other landowners that helped in Kiarahi being returned to the relative safety of the Otanewainuku forest where hopefully she will find a mate and settle down in her own territory.

*Written by David Brown: Kiwi Project Coordinator for Otanewainuku.*



*Not Kaiarahi - Stock Image*



*Otanewainuku*



*Not Kaiarahi - Stock Image*

## Te Whakakaha's New Website

We realised that having a central hub where people who are interested in us can access key information about us as an organisation, who we are and what we do was extremely important to us. So we reached out and engaged with our friends at Bay Conservation Alliance to see if they were able to help in this area and they definitely came through. We now have somewhere where members of the public, volunteers and funders can go to have all of this information in one place, and although this website is still a work in progress, we couldn't be happier with the outcome. Make sure to check it out! [www.tewhakakahatrust.org.nz](http://www.tewhakakahatrust.org.nz)

# Trapping Girls By Prue Burt

It's 7.30 in the morning and I'm meeting up with one of my regular trapping buddies. We drive up to the base where our gear is kept and fill up our containers with maize, crunchy Pecs peanut butter, dried rabbit and various tools to aid us with the task in hand. As per usual we are full of the glee of life and happy to be volunteering our time to the huge task of helping New Zealand become predator free by 2050.

I had the desire to do some volunteer work but in choosing something I needed to be passionate about the cause. I heard about the TeWhakakaha Conservation Trust and it ticked the boxes for what I wanted to do: contribute to the task of getting NZ predator free by 2050, it was local and I would be exercising in the bush and catching up with friends. I attended a training session at the conservation area to learn about the different traps and then went out with another trapper to get the hang of setting traps.



Sometime later two of us were contacted to set up a new trap line. The first day we carried traps in, and since then this is the line we have maintained. We have incorporated another line plus carried in a lot more traps bringing it to about 70 that we check fortnightly. If catch numbers get high then we check weekly. Our team is four women and usually two of us go together depending on who is available. We enjoy the outdoors and some of us are trampers, walking Papamoa Hills or the Mount to maintain fitness.



It's a great catchup with friends who are also passionate about the bird life in our local area and we want to see the demise of the rats, stoats, ferrets and weasels in this beautiful bush. We have lots of laughs, plenty of squeals and the odd bit of swearing when we find something particularly revolting. Last year at the end of lockdown this work became a highlight of our week which we genuinely looked forward to. We take trapping seriously. Since we are volunteering our time we want to ensure our time is put to good work so we need to think like a predator. Emphasis is placed on where we place each trap - we look for small animal tracks leading into the bush. We decide on bait and vary it regularly. We create bait trails through the bush using the fresh rats that we catch, and if on the drive up we find a fresh rabbit carcass on the road we stop and pick it up to also drag through the bush and rub on the traps. Often traps are cleaned to rid them of mould and the other awful things that accumulate inside. While we feel proud of our good catch rates we have to remind ourselves that it's not about how many predators we trap on each outing, it's about what we haven't trapped and why. It is an ongoing challenge to try and understand the behavior of the more elusive predators so we can reduce their numbers. Our aim is to contribute to the effort of making New Zealand predator free by 2050.

*Written by: Prue Burt*

# A Special Thank You

A lot of what we do and what we accomplish would not be possible with all of our trustees, volunteers, donors, funders and sponsors.

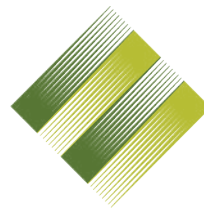
We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps Te Whakakaha Trust going personally. We couldn't make a positive impact without each and everyone of you, Thank You from everyone at Te Whakakaha Trust.



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*



TE KAPU Ō WAITAHA  
He Ao Hou

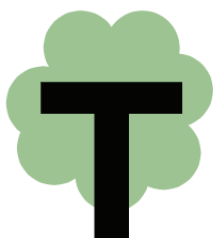


*Western Bay of Plenty  
District Council*



**Forest & Bird**

TE REO O TE TAIAO | *Giving Nature a Voice*



**TREES THAT COUNT**  
TE RAHI O TĀNE



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