

Newsletter

October 2024



Kia ora from the trustees

Welcome to our first newsletter for some time. We have had a busy year and it's time to report back to the wider community on some of the things we have been doing.

There are seven of us on the Trust currently. We meet monthly and have divided our work into portfolios and members report back on progress at each meeting.

Our AGM and annual report

We have just had our AGM on 30 September at the historic Sunday School building next to the Mission House. There was a good turnout to hear individual committee members give updates on activities during the year. **See annual report [here](#)**

Mae Lewis from Kiwi Coast was our guest speaker. The meeting was also attended by Bernie Buhler from Northland Regional Council and Lindis Capper-Starr from Historic Places NZ.

Working with the community

Kiwi listening under the stars

Every year around June/July, local volunteers and trustees monitor kiwi calls on the same sites to see whether numbers are increasing or decreasing. The results are being finalised and will be reported in the next newsletter.

Your trapping results

We know that people in Waimate North are successfully trapping on their properties and we would like to record what you are catching and how many.

You can send in your activities to Landcare either via our website through **the Activity Return button**, or to trust@waimatenorthlandcare.org.nz.

How people get involved

Local people continue to help by becoming Trustees and members, donating money and time, buying and planting trees, controlling invasive weeds and taking part in kiwi aversion training for dogs.

Would you like to help with any of these activities? Please get in touch waimatenorthlandcares@gmail.com

Keeping in touch with you

Events and activities

During COVID, like many other groups, we lost some connection with our community and are still in a rebuilding stage. By holding regular social gatherings, we hope to develop and foster relationships within the community, particularly with new residents.

Contact us on waimatenorthlandcares@gmail.com

Facebook: Waimate North Landcare Trust Inc.

Website: <https://waimatenorthlandcare.org.nz>

What's Coming Up

- Look out for the Landcare display at the Bay of Island Show – 9 November
- Local trapping workshop with Kiwi Coast – more details soon.
- Our Xmas BBQ and shared meal in the Showgrounds hall - keep Sunday evening 24 November 24 free.

Profile: Toss



'Kiwi Aversion training for dogs' organiser John Beachman with his dog Toss who has attended the clinic six times and is a star pupil. Toss is 6-year old foxy cattle dog cross and can tree possums for John to shoot. His claim to fame is he once caught a stoat.

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What we have been doing

Pest control

The Trust is over 25 years old, the oldest Landcare group in the mid-north. We do pest control over an area of 9,400ha. Our trapper checks 43 kms of traplines monthly, primarily for stoats and weasels in the Waitangi Valley, and Waikaramu and Showgrounds roads.

See our annual pest control numbers [here](#)

Automatic traps on the Okuratope Pa site

Kiwi Coast recently lent the Trust 10 automatic traps to be placed on the Okuratope Pa site. Trail cameras captured videos of cats, pigs and hawks in the pa site. The traps will now be moved to other bush sites in Waimate North.



Trustees John Dryburgh and John Todd installing an automatic trap with help from Mae Lewis of Kiwi Coast and Beau Lilly.

Native tree nursery



Trustee John Dryburgh repotting manuka seedlings in his shade house. Each year the Trust grows trees for fundraising. The seedlings are sourced locally.

Your favourite tree – Courthouse Lane Oak



This oak tree brought us to Waimate North in 2016. Looking to be “near Kerikeri” there was no doubt that, on seeing this stunning oak, that this was our place. We estimate it to be about 120-140 years old and a direct descendant of what was the oldest oak tree in Northland, just off Showground Road, sadly now perished. Although not a native, it showcases the early settlers desire to have memories of home.

I challenge you to look at your property. Take a picture and tell us about your favourite tree - Isobel