



Kaharoa Kokako Trust

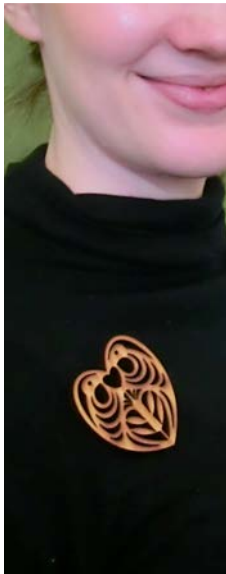
November 2011, Newsletter

PO Box 78 NGONGOTAHA 3041 - www.kokako.org.nz

This newsletter summarises the Trust's activities aimed at ensuring the long-term protection and survival of kokako at Kaharoa.

A big thank you to all volunteers who helped us out during 2011. There will be no more workdays held this year. We will resume workdays after the summer holidays in preparation for pest control in 2012. Dates will be posted on our website www.kokako.org.nz

Please note: contractors may be working in the block prior to Christmas on wilding pine control.



Chalkydigits put their heart into kokako

Chalkydigits is a creative clothing company based in Christchurch who puts their heart and soul into conservation. Two years ago they supported the South Island robin transfer to Chalky Island. This year they are getting behind kokako recovery, much to the delight of the Kaharoa Kokako Trust.

Chalkydigits have designed a crafty kokako badge from which all proceeds will go to our Kokako Nest Egg fund. We are very fortunate to be chosen as the beneficiary of their exciting national campaign.

By wearing your chalkydigits kokako badge everyone will be able to see that your heart beats for kokako too! Just like the true-blue kokako, though, these badges are strictly limited edition, so get in quick.



Head to the chalkydigits website (www.chalkydigits.co.nz/shop/help+our+kokako.html) or contact margaret.horner@scionresearch.com to place your order. The Outdoorsman Headquarters in Rotorua is also selling the badges (along with a selection of chalkydigits clothing).

Chalkydigits have launched a beautiful kokako design on their summer clothing range for women. It's worth checking out their website or visiting your closest chalkydigits stockist.

Need more Christmas gift ideas?

KKT has produced a tee shirt for kokako lovers in dark grey and teal blue, in a range of adult sizes. The cost is \$35 each.

The tee shirt was made possible by our Kokako Nest Egg sponsor, PF Olsen Ltd. Proceeds from teeshirt sales go directly into our Nest Egg. The graceful design of a kokako in flight was supplied by ecologist, Sid Marsh.

To order a tee shirt contact Margaret Horner on 027 285 6356 or email margaret.horner@scionresearch.com



Trustpower Award

The Kaharoa Kokako Trust was pleased to receive a regional commendation in the recent Trustpower Awards – Heritage and Environment category. The award recognised our recent contribution of kokako to Otanewainuku in Tauranga (see item over page). It is always an honour to receive community awards, and we are very grateful to DOC for nominating us!

More kokako move to Tauranga

The Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust (OKT) succeeded in capturing a further seven Kaharoa kokako (four females and three males) for release at Mount Otanewainuku near Tauranga. A total of nine birds were taken from Kaharoa (plus eight from Rotoehu last year) to establish a new kokako population in their forest.

The OKT were delighted to report that the first kokako chick for 30 years was fledged at Otanewainuku last summer, and they look forward to more success in the current nesting season. All of the captured birds were fitted with transmitters to enable their progress to be monitored. The success of this translocation is a significant milestone in the national kokako recovery effort.



Photo courtesy of Moana Bianchin

Otanewainuku Conservation Area is 1200 hectares of impressive native forest at the top of Mountain Road and No.2 Road (from Rotorua, access is via Mangatoui Road off the Tauranga Direct Road). The forest is an ideal site for the kokako, as it has never been modified or logged, and holds a rich diversity of plant, bird and insect life. For further information on the OKT see www.kiwitrust.org. The area is well worth a visit if you are looking for walks this summer.

Kokako continue to spread

Our ecologists Carmel Richardson and Sid Marsh, accompanied by Department of Conservation staff, recently completed a kokako survey on properties neighbouring the Kaharoa Conservation Area. Preliminary results show that kokako have continued to spread along the Onaia Stream, south of the current protected area. Next year we will install a new bait station network to protect these birds.

Across the Mangorewa Gorge, a small kokako community has established in privately-owned bush. The Kaharoa Kokako Trust has been working with landowners across the gorge to protect these birds over the past three years. Funding for the pest control on neighbouring properties has been generously supplied by the Biodiversity Condition Fund administered by DOC.



We gratefully acknowledge The Southern Trust, New Zealand Community Trust and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council for funding the survey.



Tairua students help our cause

The Kaharoa Kokako Trust was thrilled to receive a surprise donation from a group of Tairua children. Conor Kilpatrick, Billy Turner, Rebecca Read and Tara from Room 5, Tairua School held a sausage sizzle to raise money for kokako recovery.

This wonderful effort was part of a school project where children created an endangered species action plan focusing on various species. We banked their \$74.80 donation into our Kokako Nest Egg fund, which now exceeds \$45,000.

Stoat trappers needed

Volunteers are needed to help maintain stoat traps in Kaharoa Forest. This work involves regular visits to empty and reset the traps at times that are suited to the individual. If you are interested, please contact Carmel Richardson on 07 332 3633.