



Kaharoa Kokako Trust

August 2013, Newsletter

PO Box 190 Rotorua 3010 - www.kokako.org.nz

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

You are invited to our Annual Public Meeting

Join with us to celebrate another year of kokako success.

When? Wednesday 28 August, 7.00pm

Where? Ngongotaha Hall, School Road, Ngongotaha

Our guest speaker for the evening is Henry Weston, the former DOC Conservator who has been a great supporter of KKT from our inception. The topic of Henry's talk will be "*The changing face(s) of conservation in New Zealand: the shifting roles of the Department of Conservation, Regional Council, communities and iwi.*"

Supper provided

2013 pest control ready to go

Starting later this month, the Trust will be using Pindone to target rats in the Kaharoa Conservation Area.

Workdays will take place on the following dates, starting 9am at the Kokako Shelter on Kapukapu Road:

- Saturday 31 August – filling bait stations
- Saturday 14 September – bait station top-up
- Saturday 12 October – emptying bait stations

Pindone is heavy, so all hands will be welcome!

We are grateful for all the work done by volunteers over the past couple of months to clear tracks in preparation for pest control.

Over in the Onaia East block, where the terrain is much tougher, nearly 80 hours has been spent by contractors doing maintenance on the bait station lines. Thanks to Helen Chapman and Pauline Adams for their great work and the Department of Conservation for providing funding.

More information about the operation is posted on our website: www.kokako.org.nz

Impressive effort by volunteers

Volunteer time added up to a whopping 2190 hours last year, an increase on previous years which averaged around 1800 hours. Tasks include field work, administration, management, publicity, hosting visitor groups and the many other activities that go into keeping the kokako protected.

Every single person who has contributed to this impressive effort deserves a huge pat on the back. The Kaharoa Kokako Trust was one of the first community groups of its kind to be established in New Zealand and we are still going strong thanks to all of you!



Damien Sellier is one of the hard working volunteers who have been clearing tracks in preparation for pest control. A big thank you to everyone who has attended our winter workdays.

Chalkydigits kokako campaign comes to an endbut our hearts will go on.

Christchurch-based clothing company Chalkydigits put their hearts into a nationwide campaign to support kokako recovery and really delivered the goods. The lovely kokako brooches created by Chalkydigits as a fundraiser have been an awesome boost for our nest egg.

The last brooch sold recently to Katherine Tate in Auckland (pictured at right). We extend huge thanks to Katherine and the many other people who bought a brooch.

Most of all, we thank Chalkydigits whose amazing generosity came out of nowhere and turned out to be a real boost to our Kokako Nest Egg. It is always heartening to see businesses supporting conversation, and Chalkydigits have a wonderful track record. **Our hearts are very grateful!**



First aid tackles realistic scenarios

This is definitely not a position we want to see our Trust Chair Anne Managh caught in! (Or anyone else for that matter.) Fortunately it's not for real. Anne was one of five kokako volunteers who attended a weekend of outdoor first aid training provided by Triple One Care. This practical training was paid for by the Department of Conservation and included volunteers from other community groups in the Rotorua area. You'll be pleased to know that Anne came through it unscathed.

Scoping out extensions to pest control

A draft pest control network layout for Kapukapu Reserve has been completed by a contractor. There are still many challenges ahead, conversations to be had and some further scoping to do before we decide whether it is viable to work in this area. The Trust will work through this process over the next few months with DOC, iwi and neighbours to see if and how we may proceed. The terrain in Kapukapu Reserve is challenging – with steep bluffs, river gorges and limited access. The Trust is grateful to the Department of Conservation for its financial support to enable this scoping work to be undertaken.

Helicopters provide heavyweight support for operations

Murupara-based helicopter operators, Heli-Resources (formerly Lakeland Helicopters), have offered to give our manpower a boost by delivering all our toxins to the operation site.

By performing the same role last year, they saved us a heap of mileage and avoided many logistical headaches. We really appreciate this practical support, and also the safety equipment they have donated. This is a great example of how support comes in many forms – and all of it is valuable!



Kokako Nest Egg on target

Our Kokako Nest Egg fund now sits at over \$80,000 and is growing steadily. We are grateful to all those who have contributed so far, including generous sponsorship from **PF Olsen Ltd** and **Chalkydigits**.

The Kokako Nest Egg is an investment fund set up by the Trust to enable financial self-sufficiency for future pest control. **To make a donation post us a cheque or use your credit card through our website. We are a charitable trust so all donations are tax deductible in New Zealand.**



www.kokako.org.nz