

FRIENDS OF MANGEMANGEROA INCORPORATED SOCIETY

Spring/Summer Newsletter 2023

As we approach the conclusion of the year, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has given us support throughout 2023.

Your unwavering dedication and hard work have been instrumental in preserving the invaluable Mangemangeroa Reserve, ensuring its continued flourishing as a community treasure. Whether you contributed through weeding, planting, watering, pest control, or engaging with the community, each effort has played a crucial role in protecting the natural beauty and biodiversity of the Mangemangeroa Reserve. This legacy is one that will endure, benefiting generations to come.

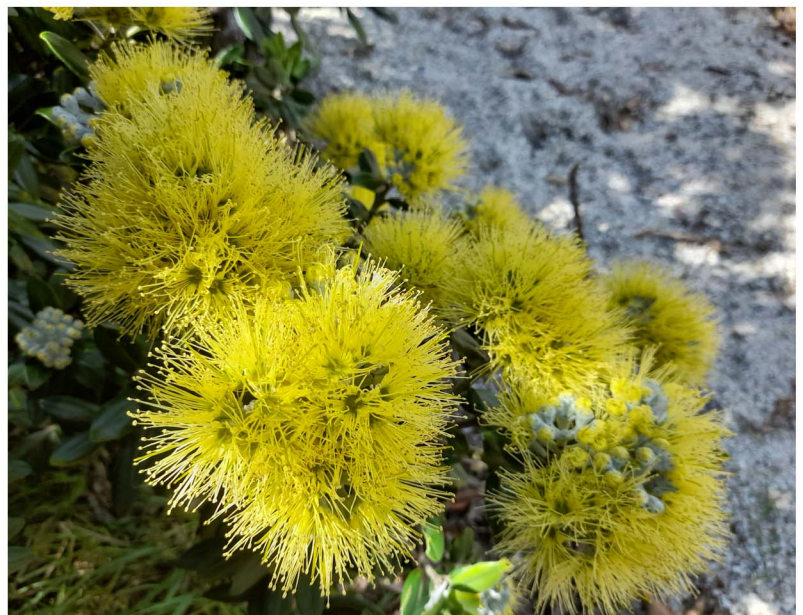
In the past year, we were fortunate to collaborate with 15 groups from the community, schools, and external organizations. Our annual planting day witnessed an impressive turnout, and we were blessed with favorable weather. A special thank you to Howick Rotary for their generous support and the delightful sausage sizzle that added to the enjoyment of the day.

Looking ahead to 2024, we eagerly anticipate continuing our collaboration with our volunteers and supporters. It marks a significant milestone as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of The Friends of Mangemangeroa. We are grateful for the journey we've shared so far and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

As the holiday season approaches, we extend warm wishes for a joyous Christmas spent in the company of family and friends. May the spirit of community and conservation continue to thrive in 2024.



Rosie a long time resident
of the reserve



Yellow Pohutukawa photographed by Sally Barclay

Groups in the reserve August to December 2023



Work day 14 August 2023



St. Kentigern College 27 August 2023



BOSS Soccer Club 16 September 2023



Auckland Council Ranger Walk 23 September 2023



Eastview Baptist Church 21 October 2023



Awesome job being done with Karamu seed raising by Ormiston Junior College



Tree Planted in memory of Allan Riley
31 May 2023



Seat Dedication to Allan Riley
Howick Rotary and Friends of Mangemangeroa
2 September 2023



Help with weeding while you walk *Sally Barclay*

With the wet winter and now warm spring, weeds are thriving in the Mangemangeroa Reserve. To help control the tradescantia (Wandering Willy) two sites have been set up to encourage the public to help with this control. Collect a bag at the first station, fill it, then empty it into the big black bag at the next station, hang your bag up ready for the next person going the other way. The big black bags are special weed bags in which the weeds decay over time and can then be emptied as compost into the reserve. Every little bit helps!



A local walker helping to reduce the weed population in the Mangemangeroa Reserve.



Due to the persistent adverse weather conditions in Auckland since the start of the year, there has been a notable occurrence of landslides and fallen trees within the Reserve. Regrettably, it came to our attention that an individual from the community had taken it upon themselves to fell live cabbage trees and a Mamaku (black fern) tree in order to create a makeshift bridge over one of the landslides located on the southern side of the reserve. These particular trees hold significant value in the ongoing restoration efforts of the reserve. These trees are eleven years old, having been planted in 2013 through the collaborative efforts of the Friends of Mangemangeroa, local schools, and the community. The trees originated from ecologically sourced native specimens and have since flourished to a point where they play a pivotal role in soil stabilization. They also offer sustenance to nectar-feeding birds during spring and fruit-eating birds during autumn. Auckland Council have been informed about the landslides and resultant damage that has affected the reserve. Reports submitted by both The Friends of Mangemangeroa and concerned members of the public. In response, the council has taken measures to install warning fences and tape in the affected areas. Regrettably, these precautions have been repeatedly removed by members of the public utilizing the reserve. We are hoping that the Auckland Council will promptly address these issues, ensuring the safety of those who derive enjoyment from exploring the reserve.

Threatened Species Grant project *Ethan McCormick*

Pest Free Howick was successful in receiving a Threatened Species grant from the Auckland Zoo Conservation Fund last year. This project involves several components

- looking at Long-Finned Eel/Tuna
- Godwits/Kuaka
- Bittern/Matuku Hurepo

The bittern aspect involved taking a small group of students into Mangemangeroa Reserve on Tuesday 3rd October. The students set up AR4 recording devices to remotely record bittern booming over the space of 1 week. Students also used eDNA kits to sample water from the estuary and stream to learn about the other organisms present in the area, and assisted with changing the SD cards in the FOM trail cameras. Throughout the course of the day students learned about the natural and human history of the reserve, the threats posed by invasive species, and the wildlife present in the area. This stage of the project is still underway as data hasn't been analysed. Pest Free Howick has also heard from an acoustics company that is wanting to trial their new remote recorders for Pekapeka and Bittern. They are looking to get these recorders set up sometime in the next few weeks. Hopefully they find something!





After 20 years, Somerville Intermediate can no longer accommodate our planting unit on the school grounds due to ongoing construction. Unfortunately, with no alternative site available, it has been relocated to the stockyard area at the reserve behind the container. Thank you to our weeding team for dismantling and removing this large unit.



The Point View Heritage Society Inc sponsored the Allan Riley Memorial Essay for Year 10 Howick College Students. The winner was Evie Hollyman pictured with Bev Riley and Judith Grant Chairperson The Point View Heritage Society Inc.

Updated maps and information on the reserve are now available in our brochure holder at the carpark entrance.



A BIG Thanks to



for having our large planting unit on site for
the past 20 years



**Howick Village
Association**

for printing, displaying our posters and
use of their meeting room



Quick Printz for displaying our posters

Facilities Team Auckland Council

Howick College students and Ethan McCormick
for servicing the A24 Traps

All our volunteers and supporters
during the year

Our Watering Team

Our Weeding Team



Forest & Bird
TE REO O TE TAIAO | Giving Nature a Voice
South Auckland Branch

GET INVOLVED

BECOME A MEMBER

If you would like to become a member of the "friends"
and help support us
our annual subscription is
\$10 single or \$15 family.
As we are a registered charity any donations over
\$5.00 can be claimed as a tax rebate.

Contact Us

- thefriendsofmangemangeroa@gmail.com
- mangemangeroa.org.nz
- Follow us on Facebook

We NEED you Can you HELP?

Join our Volunteer team of weeders

Do you have a few hours free on a
Wednesday morning?

Volunteers are welcome to join our
Wednesday weeding group

We meet at 9 a.m.
at the container by the barn before
heading into the reserve

All equipment provided



Contact

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THE FRIENDS OF MANGEMANGEROA
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