

Keeping you informed about Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust. April  
2020 Update

[View this email in your browser.](#)



# ŌTANEWAINUKU KIWI TRUST

Hi Dawn,

## Kia Kaha Aotearoa

Our last workday held on 8th March saw 22 of our volunteers help remove bait from the forest. Thank you to those who attended and helped get this work done.

As previously stated, workdays and volunteers going into the forest has been postponed until such time as we get further advice from DOC but please be assured that the Trust is working on getting clarification around what can or can't be done.

In the meantime, we must all sit tight, stay strong, keep ourselves safe and follow the advice given by the Government.

We will keep you updated on any progress.

## KIWI TEAM

Kiwi work is switching from plodding, to lots to get done in the next two months. House arrest is not convenient at all. All out boys transmitters require replacing before the end of May when the official breeding season kicks off and best practice says don't handle the birds. Girls transmitters need be changed from one leg to the other, to refresh the band, give the leg a rest, and change the direction of their circles. (joke!)

2 Year old female Koko (*pronounced Korkor*) has recently been released into OT. She put on a great show for her sponsors, Zespri and YSAR. by calmly probing and looking around before popping herself into her artificial burrow to

sleep of the rest of the afternoon.

A surprise for the monitoring team, we're all a little blaze' about Whetu and Maui but as is usual the only constant with kiwi are surprises. Whetu is 50 days incubation. His third for last season. Two incubations are usual. He's so reliable he's at the bottom of the check list and no one had got to the bottom of the list since his last egg lift.

Young Fog (Smokeys 3rd chick) and younger Moses (Myfies 1st chick) are now in Warrenheip. Moses's travel box had 'I am a pudding" written on it. Chubby bubby chickie.

We have two more chicks still at The Hatchery.

Keep well

*Cheers Sheryl*

## **CAR PARK EXTENSIONS**

Thank you to the community for your effort to complete the Ōtanewainuku car park fence.

Last year the Ōtanewainuku Kiwi trust received some TECT funding to extend and upgrade the car park at Ōtanewainuku.

In October the family of the late Tom King donated plants and planted out the bunds of dirt left over from the car park construction. This was a wonderful way to remember Tom and the huge contribution he made to the track maintenance of Ōtanewainuku and beyond. The planted trees have thrived over the summer, in spite of the dry. It clearly shows the advantage of planting locally sourced trees into their natural environment.

On Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th March, local fencing contractors Marty and Keith Bennett led a team of volunteers to replace the old rail fence with an improved version. A small amount of TECT funding was left over from the car park construction. This, added to sponsorship from Wild Kiwi, was enough to pay for all the materials.

Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust wishes to publicly acknowledge the donation of time, equipment and skill, put into this project by Marty and Keith.

On Tuesday, two locals volunteered to help lay out the posts. Then on Wednesday we had four volunteers to help lay out the rails and securely screw them to the posts.

Thank you to the volunteers, Bobby Hodge, Perri Johnson, Frank Santi and Hans Pendergrast

A great community effort. A project well done. Thanks everyone.

With the extension, tree planting and fence now complete, the last thing that

needs doing is to tar seal the car park. We patiently wait for Mountain Road to be upgraded and tar-sealed. I believe that the roading plan includes tar-sealing the car park. We look forward to that!!

We also need to give a big thank you to Gavin Cherrie for leading the whole Car Park upgrade project.

*Cheers Hans Pendergrast*



## **KOKAKO CENSUS - AUGUST**

**Ōtanewainuku Kokako Census - all set to start on August 3rd.**

If you would like to get up close to our Ōtanewainuku Kokako and learn more about this amazing bird then volunteer to support the census teams. There is no better opportunity than this to get to know Kokako. Block some time out in your calendar and join a team.

- We have 4 teams and we need 1 or 2 volunteers to support each team.
- We've set aside 2 weeks from 3rd to 15th August. With a 3rd week in reserve if we need it.
- The teams work from pre-dawn to early afternoon finding and following birds, 6 days a week. (If the weather causes lost days during the week the teams can work Sunday as well)
- all volunteers receive 'on the job' kokako census training when they start their task.

You will need:

- A reasonably good level of fitness,
- To be well prepared with strong footwear, appropriate clothing (including your own 'survival' kit, hydration and snacks to sustain the mornings work,
- To be able to commit a minimum of 3 days (this is to ensure that our team leaders are not using each days time to train new people),

- Some GPS experience would be helpful but not essential. Training will be available 'on the job'.

If you have any queries then phone or email Hans Pendergrast  
021 02625220 [roadsend1@gmail.com](mailto:roadsend1@gmail.com)

## **FOR THE KIDS**



Kids, now, when the world is quiet and you are starting to hear the sounds of the birds more, is a good time to use this opportunity to see if you can count how many birds visit your home?

Make notes on the birds you see in your garden or if you are out for a walk with your family.

What do they eat? How often do they visit? Are any of them nesting in your area?

Once you start keeping a bird observation diary, you will find it very interesting to compare your evidence with other days, weather or seasons. Remember that if you live in a town or city there are still plenty of birds to observe.

See if you can take some photos - we would love to be able to share them with our Ōtanewainuku family!



## **The Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust (OKT) Handbook**

**This handbook gives an insight into the background of the trust, it's purpose and vision and how you as a volunteer can help achieve that vision. This is not only for those working actively in the forest but also to those helping behind the scenes.**

**If you would like a copy of the volunteer handbook emailed to you please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Gaylene Street [volunteers@volbop.org.nz](mailto:volunteers@volbop.org.nz) or on 07 571 3714.**



**When the Forest Flourishes, the People Flourish.**



*Copyright © 2018 Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust. All rights reserved*

**Our mailing address is:**  
Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust  
PO Box 9311, Tauranga 3142

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).  
You can also update your [contact details](#).

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. The information contained in this e-mail message is CONFIDENTIAL and is intended only for the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this document is strictly prohibited. If you have received this document in error, please immediately notify us at [www.kiwitrust.org](http://www.kiwitrust.org) and delete this transmission. THANK YOU.