



Mahinepua - Radar Hill Landcare Group.

Charities Commission Reg. 42272

The Radar Rattler

Newsletter #162 May 23

Kia Ora, everyone

Firstly, a big welcome to our new members....

Ian & Jo Hansen, Mark Williamson & Tui Slater,
Rebekah & Josh Hasloch

Hot News – Lesley and Yagi have found a suitable kiwi to monitor!!

As you will all recall, it was time to remove the transmitter from Fred and find another suitable kiwi. In view of the generous donations that Bridget and Topher have been able to generate and their ongoing support, the committee decided to invite them to name the next Fred. They were thrilled to be asked and put a lot of thought into choosing the name “Terry” in honour of their friend Terry Hatch.

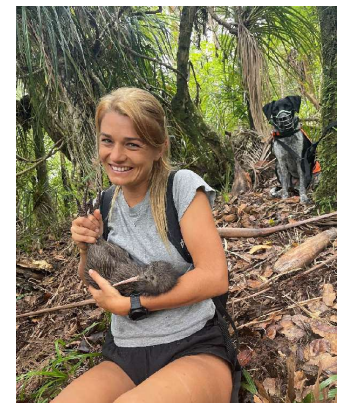
Bridget and Topher wrote, “Terry is 84. He lives in Northland and his son lives in Kaeo. Terry and his family have spent their lives promoting the planting of native species and the conservation and regeneration of native bush. Terry has dedicated almost 50 years to the breeding of rare New Zealand plants, island reforestation, and the promotion of horticulture through his writing and speaking engagements. He won a Supreme Award for Horticultural Excellence at the Ellerslie Flower Show. He is a life member and former President of the Friends of the Auckland Regional Botanic Gardens. He was a founding member and President of the International Plant Propagators' Society, New Zealand Region, and also served as International President of the Society. He raised more than 150,000 plants for the revegetation of Mercury Island, and co-authored the highly respected book ‘Bulbs for New Zealand Gardeners and Collectors’. He runs a nursery, Joy Plants, near Auckland. Topher spent many winters planting natives with Terry, as a child. And I understand Terry has also worked with Bob locally, including the planting on Big Flat Island.”



Next came the mission to find a “Terry”....

So, Bridget and her sister, Micki joined Lesley and Yagi (specially trained kiwi seeking dog) with Jo and Jen, going out over very difficult terrain on a search. They didn't find an adult male, but did locate a juvenile kiwi (around 6 months old and weighing 1,2kg). Although a wonderful find, he was too small. Bridget with the juvenile kiwi, Yagi in the background. Says Bridget “What an incredible opportunity to have seen a kiwi, yet alone hold one.” Unfortunately, Topher had a prior commitment that day, so Micki stepped in for him. She was totally blown away by the experience!

See the link to Expedition Earth to learn more about Bridget and Topher
<https://www.facebook.com/ExpeditionEarth.Live>



A couple of days later....

Lesley had another try and successfully located an adult male which she has put the new transmitter onto. Fantastic work by Lesley and Yagi. We are very excited and looking forward to following Terry's adventures in the future, not to mention the scientific data that he will provide. We hope to have a photo of Kiwi Terry available soon.

They were also were able to hear Graham (our other monitored kiwi) and confirm that all is well with him.

Much to Jen's delight and as a result of her hard work, our next **Kiwi Avoidance Training (KATs)** event is fully booked - please contact Jen if you would like to go on her 'wait list' for the next session. Jen@radarhill.org.nz



Mahinepua Radar Hill Landcare Group
<https://www.radarhill.org.nz>

Kiwi Avoidance Training

We are lucky to have kiwi in our neighbourhood and are working hard to ensure our kiwi thrive.

Come and learn about our local kiwi, why dogs are so dangerous for kiwi, how you can reduce the risk of your dog injuring or killing kiwi and put your dog through our training.

For more information:
<https://www.kiwiavoidancetraining.nz>

Date: Saturday 6 May 2023
Time: 9.30am - 3.00pm
Venue: 'The Pines' Wainui Road
Contact: jen@radarhill.org.nz
Bookings are essential!



Kiwi Listening - Can you help? We are looking for volunteers to come and listen for our kiwis calling on four nights between 9 – 28 May (weather dependent!). Please let us know asap with availability and experience. We hope to arrange a training session beforehand for new listeners and those who would like to revise. We have 18 sites to cover with minimum 2 people per site. Contact Rebekah Hasloch (beksajh@gmail.com) Come and listen to our own kiwi!!

Trapping

Copied from Kiwi Coast's Facebook Page...

We are proud to have contributed to these results.

"The results are IN and pests are OUT!

Groups and projects linked into Kiwi Coast have trapped 708,536 pests in the last ten years. In 2022, an average of 2,250 pests were trapped EVERY WEEK! Huge thanks to all those out there doing the hard yards, week in week out. You are making a huge difference. Read all the nitty gritty here: <https://kiwicoast.org.nz/kiwi-coast-groups-trap-708536.../> Huge thanks also to all the funders and supporters backing Kiwi Coast so we can help do our bit to keep it all going, including [Foundation North](#), [Northland Regional Council](#) and the Follow a Kiwi Sponsors."



Northland is better off with
708,536
animal pests
GONE!

Our own results for the first quarter of 2023 are attached with this edition of The Radar Rattler. The Trapping Reports show you the catches around your area. You may not always see the trapper working, but be assured that he is quietly working out there for us. Possums are on the move again – the job is never complete.

As always...

Voluntary effort helps the group funding applications without doubt. We would be so grateful if you could please record and report on the following:

- **Your Possum (and other pest) kills.**
- **Your volunteer hours and time spent on the removal of noxious weeds etc.**
- **Any revegetation done on private land (for any reason). Number of native plants and area covered.**

Now that the North Island brown kiwi is no longer regarded as endangered nationally (it is however, a good indicator species), the presence of other endangered fauna and flora in the Landcare area can be used for funding application purposes where our members are making considerable effort towards achieving sustainable protection of those endangered species.

Please report information regularly to admin@radarhill.org.nz, Attention Casey

Casey has kindly shared some interesting photos with us. Thank you Casey.



A hitchhiking Auckland Tree Weta ([Hemideina thoracica](#)), whose conservation status is not threatened, spotted (unexpectedly) on Radar Hill, 9 April 2023.



Little Blue Penguin (Little penguin/kororā), whose conservation status is "[At Risk – Declining](#)", spotted on Tattershal Beach (Taiaue Bay) 26 April 2023

Follow and like us on our new Facebook Page – Mahinepua Radar Hill Landcare Group
<https://www.facebook.com/Mahinepua-Radar-Hill-Landcare-Group-116005128097984>

Remember to keep checking the MRHLCG website. <https://www.radarhill.org.nz/>

More tools to keep in touch, engage and communicate with our members. Take a look, so much information about the group.

If you would like to pay a subscription or make any donation, please direct credit our bank account 02-0352-0132664-000 - BNZ MRHLG Inc

Any contribution is greatly appreciated and helps us so much!

Best regards,

Lynne Lucas
Editor, The Radar Rattler

PS:

Has anyone seen this Burmese cat, missing from Mahinepua since late December. His owner, Beks (+64221985295) is desperate for any information be it good or bad news.



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