



# Mahinepua - Radar Hill Landcare Group.

Charities Commission Reg. 42272

## The Radar Rattler

Newsletter #163 June 23

Kia Ora, everyone

Introducing "Terry", who is now wearing one of our transmitters so that he can be monitored. Many thanks to Lesley and Yagi for successfully locating him deep in the bush. Terry was in good condition and weighed 1630 gms. He is too young to breed yet, but we will be watching to see whether he stays around the same spot or decides to move into new territory. *(Photo of handsome Terry as promised in the last edition)*



Also introducing Topher, who together with Bridget, suggested Terry's name. Bridget and Topher and Dave and Micki together with help from their extended families have recently planted over 3,000 native plants and trees on their property. Not an easy task on very steep land, but well worthwhile!  
(See the link to Expedition Earth to learn more about Bridget and Topher <https://www.facebook.com/ExpeditionEarth.Live>)



Our two monitored kiwi provide us with invaluable data. We now know that they emerge and become active at dusk, much earlier than previously thought! Please be careful driving home and take your dogs out on lead to ensure our kiwis' safety. They may not be calling, but they are out of their burrows. During their weekly monitoring, Jen and Jo found that they haven't been so active during recent storms, thankfully, however better weather brings them out and about again. In May it was time to give Graham his annual check-up.

Lesley and Yagi tracking down "Graham" to put a new monitor on him.



Lesley putting Graham back into his nest after checking his condition and changing the monitor over. He nests in close proximity to landowners with dogs! Graham was found to be in moderate breeding condition after the good Summer weighing in at 2025gms. He had lost a little weight since last year. Thanks again to Lesley who has given us so many hours and often in dreadful weather!



May brought the first “window” for Kiwi Listening. Jo and Rebekah put in many hours organising human listeners (the help of volunteers was much appreciated and we hope that they enjoyed the experience); and the placement of recorders. Thank you both!! We also would like to thank property owners who granted us access and Cinzia from Doc who did a Zoom training workshop. Listening took place for two hours at a time over four nights. Unfortunately, weather interrupted, so they could not be consecutive, which added to the work involved in the co-ordination. All the results will be available soon after the recorders have been played back and results collated.

Lyndon, our trapper has been working on the Mahinepua Peninsular gathering information on “chew cards” to identify which pests he is up against. He is amazed to be catching so many weasels and Lesley confirmed that it is also a bad year for both rats and mice.

Brian, our chairman recently attended the National Kiwi Hui on our behalf. His full report will appear in the next edition, but whilst there, he learnt that our North Island Brown Kiwi has moved from “endangered/at risk” to a new category called “conservation dependent”. Brian emphasises that this reclassification still means that trapping vigilance remains critical.

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](mailto:admin@radarhill.org.nz), Attention Casey

Jo has applied for funding from the latest round of the **DOC Community Fund**. This is taking longer than anticipated and we now expect decisions by mid-July 2023. Fingers crossed for success.

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. A copy of the new updated Constitution will be posted soon.

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:

**Still missing!!**

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.



**Also missing!!**

A Ragdoll cat from Mahinepua. Please contact Micki (+64212582995) with any information.

