

Friends of PMM Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017



The David Johnstone Pukemokemoke Bush Trust

C/o Guardian Trust ■ PO Box 1375 ■ Hamilton

Dear Friends

Recent PMM Activities

Paul received the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network award in Hokitika on the 16th of November on behalf of the Friends. The purpose of the awards, which are now in their 13th year, is to acknowledge outstanding contributions to native plant conservation in New Zealand in different categories. As a result of Julane and Warwick submitting an application to the NZPCN this year, the Friends won the national award for the community category. The award recognises all of the wonderful work that the Friends have undertaken to protect the native plant communities at PMM Reserve, including planting of native species, clearing weeds and the construction of the kauri boardwalk.



The following is a link to a media release from the Waikato District Council regarding the award:

<https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/news/media-releases/article/2017/12/07/kauri-die-back-prevention-effort-leads-to-national-award>

I know part of the kauri boardwalk is currently closed off as there are some boards in need of repair but overall the boardwalk is looking fantastic, with the addition of the metal edges on the stairs, plastic mesh and rails making the boardwalk look very professional and a pleasure to walk on. It's truly a wonderful addition to the reserve!



Thank you to Mark1 and Jack who have carried out some much needed spraying of privet. Also thank you to those of you who have been out at PMM weeding privet in between working bees, all efforts to stay on top of this weed are greatly appreciated.

November Working Bee

It was a beautiful sunny day out at PMM for the working bee on November the 18th. Led by Noel work was carried out on the tracks by Chris, Regina, Petrina, Marlin, Nick, Nav and Manveer (Nav's cousin visiting all the way from Vancouver in Canada). Gravel was taken up the track, new culverts were put in and a kauri tree that had fallen onto the boardwalk was cleared. Petrina has been working towards her Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award and taken 22 bags of gravel up the track. Thanks Petrina, that's a great effort!

Jan, Jack and Harpal cleared an area behind the container of some large flowering privet trees and painted the stumps with white poison. It made such a difference and a big clearance was made. There were lots of little native seedlings growing so with the privet gone, these natives will have a much better chance of growing. Fred worked down towards the north eastern end of the reserve clearing weeds such as honeysuckle and convolvulus.

Gina and Ashleigh dug out and cleared culverts along the Mangatea track. Ashleigh has been awarded her Ranger's Red and Green Action Community Badges for completing 20 and 15 hours of community work respectively. Twenty six of these hours were done at PMM. Well done Ashleigh, a wonderful achievement!

Thank you to all of the Friends that attended the November working bee, it was great to see the log hauler site so full of cars and so many people keen to help out. Your hard work is very much appreciated.



The next working bee and the final one for 2017 will be held on Saturday the 16th of December. We will celebrate Christmas and the end to a great year with afternoon tea. Please bring a plate. It will be a great opportunity to celebrate all the wonderful work the friends have helped with at PMM this year and reflect on the great things that have been achieved.

And I'll leave the last words to our Chairman, Warwick:

There will be lots to talk about on Saturday as we plan for next year, so please come and enjoy the company and the project, and let's party.

Kind regards
Kate



Future Working Bee Dates for 2018

- **Saturday 20th January**
- **Saturday 17th February**
- **Saturday 17th March**