

Contact Person - Secretary Lyn Whiley
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Chairman's Report

"The winter planting season is now underway, and postponement of the Open Day aside (see subsequent article), having intermittent rain throughout the weeks but fine Saturday mornings is perfect tree planting weather! The support for the first two planting days has been good too – so thanks and please keep it up.

Our AGM is coming up fast – Monday 22 June, 7pm at the Paraparaumu Library meeting room. A huge amount of planning and administration effort underpins our visible activities of growing plants, planting them and maintaining them. If you enjoy the Care-Groups activities, the please, Please,



Matt Todd (DoC)
and Lyn Whiley
(Secretary)



2009 Planting Season Opened

Many thanks to those of you who turned out to support our annual Open Day. This has traditionally been our first planting day of the season and an opportunity to reflect (and celebrate) what has already been achieved in the special place that is the Waikanae Estuary. This year was no different and it was a great day!

Despite having to postpone by a week, due to lousy weather, we had a great turn out and it was exciting to see some new faces in the crowd. Following an hour and a half planting we paused for morning tea and to listen to our guest speaker Matt Todd (Department of Conservation).

We heard about the importance of estuaries and the significant role they



PLEASE support the AGM and consider how you might contribute to the successful running of the Group.

The activities of the Group since 2004 have largely been guided by the DOC-initiated Landscape Plan authored by the late Geoff Park. Recent discussions between representatives from DOC, Greater Wellington, KCDC and the Care Group have resulted in consensus for an updated and more comprehensive plan, to provide us with a project framework for the years 2011-2016. It is hoped to have the new plan completed by December 2009.

Jeff

play in catchments. Thank you Matt for your willingness to share your knowledge and enthusiasm with us.

Following the talk it was time to walk and the group set off to explore the estuary, led by Lisa Clapcott and Matt Todd (both DoC staff).

With dark clouds closing in and the prospect of rain a real concern we made our way to Ron and Helen's garage (with the BBQ in tow).

A hot sausage or corn fritter was just the way to finish off a great morning's work, along with those great spot prizes of course!

Many thanks to the team at DoC for their support on this day (including Lisa and Dan for their early bird enthusiasm and trailer skills).



And the winner is.....

Congratulations to Brian Tester, the winner of the trip to Kapiti Island for two,

The Kapiti Island trip was donated by Kapiti Island Alive, which runs a nature lodge and educational tours on the northern end of the island.

The support from Kapiti Island Alive is particularly special due to the symmetry of their work on the island

with the Kapiti Marine Reserve and the Waikanae Estuary Scientific Reserve”.

He says he intends to redeem the Kapiti Island prize later in the year when the weather is warmer. “I have a friend who is also very much into this sort of thing and we are both looking forward to the trip in the spring”.

Who grows the plants?

The Shade House workers have been busy behind the scenes, propagating and growing on plants. This important work happens during Thursday morning working bees throughout the year.

It is at this time of year that we truly appreciate the efforts of this hard working group as we begin to plant out the thousands of plants into the estuary. Most of the plants we put in the ground are our own and we can all agree that the quality of these plants is really top notch!

Thanks to the Shade House team for their fabulous work.



“If you enjoy an early start to your day, you could be just the person.....”

Managing the operation...

Have you ever wondered who organises the plants and tools that mysteriously appear on site each planting day? That would be our very own Mike Hardiman.

Mike fortunately doesn't mind an early start to his day and can be found at the shade house container shed just after seven every planting day. He organises tools and equipment for pick up and delivery to the site by a keen group of early bird workers.

If you enjoy an early start to your day, you could be just the person to join the ‘Early Bird workers’ who meet at 7.30 am. We are a fun and friendly group and would love to have some extra help at this important time of the planting day.

For more information, or to indicate your interest in helping, please contact Mike. Phone 298 8436.



Up-coming Annual General Meeting

7pm, Monday 22 June,
2009

Community Meeting Room
Paraparaumu Library

**Annual Awards – Presentation of
the Golden Grubber, Silver Spade
and Bronze Loppers!**

Who will be this years winners?

Supper

If you are interested in being more involved in the group by joining the committee, please don't be shy!

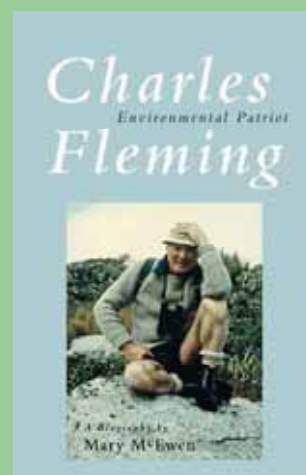
If you have any questions about the committee, please contact our current Chairperson (Jeff Eaton) to have a chat. Phone 905 1396.

Guest Speaker – Mary McEwen

Daughter of Sir Charles Fleming and author of 'Environmental Patriot' Finalist in Montana NZ Book Awards

But it was in the conservation movement that Fleming had his largest following. Actively involved in the Save Manapouri Campaign in the early 1970s, he later became a fearless spokesman for the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and the Native Forests Action Council in campaigns to save New Zealand's native forests. In this fascinating, readable and timely biography, Charles Fleming's daughter, Mary McEwen, tells the extraordinary story of an extraordinary man.

Come along and
join us for an
interesting
evening



Introducing Rob Cross

As many of you will already know... we have a new face working with the Care Group from Kapiti Coast District Council.

Rob Cross is the new Biodiversity Co-ordinator at KCDC and in this role works closely with the Care Group with site preparation and planting activities on the north bank of the Waikanae River.

There are big plans for a new planting site on the north side for 2010 and Rob is playing an important role in assisting us plan and prepare this work.

Rob has already attended committee meetings and working bees / planting days – so look out for him!



Planting on the dunes

It's always a bit of fun to be planting sand-binding plants on the dunes - the digging is easy and it's just something a bit different. The last planting day was no exception and with the sun shining and a high tide lapping at the bottom of the dunes we had a great morning planting the native spinifex and pingao plants.

The early bird workers had quite a walk in and out to the planting site with close to 1km a return trip - we all slept well that night!



Up-coming planting dates for your calendar

June

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

PLANTING DAY – Saturday 20 June

Meet on Manly Street, opposite Hadfield Place, Paraparaumu. Planting site no. RPS 3

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Monday 22 June

Paraparaumu Library Community Meeting Room - 7pm

July

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

PLANTING DAY – Saturday 4 July

Meet on Manly Street, opposite Hadfield Place, Paraparaumu

Walk along track to planting site no. RPS 5

HONDA TREE PLANTING – Saturday 18 July

Planting day at planting site RPS 6 – our Honda Tree planting site

Meet at the end of Takahe Drive, Paraparaumu

AUGUST PLANTING DAYS

1 August - Planting at planting site RPS 7 (Back dune site).

Meet at the end of Takahe Drive, Paraparaumu

15 August - Planting at RPS 8 (The Oxbow).

Meet on the bend of Otaihanga Road and walk down gravel road towards boat ramp.