

Control, Monitor, Adapt, Enhance and Repeat to Protect Mahurangi West

**Kia Ora** Mahurangi West and Hungry Creek residents and landowners. Welcome to MWP's eNews 42nd Issue - updating you on our volunteer organisation.



Please encourage your friends and neighbours on the peninsula to drop by our Community Hall on Friday 16 from 6pm onwards, for a myna get-together to discuss how to control these introduced pest birds - seen in flocks of 100s. Please bring your own drink and something to throw on the BBQ. Bread & butter, onions and BBQ sauces, as well as tea, coffee and milk will be supplied.

## Council Renews Coordinator Wage



As an acknowledgement of the progress that MWP has made over the past few years, the Auckland Council has granted us further funding for our community coordinator for another year. Nada Cottrell, who has covered the position since June 2021, says, "I'm thrilled we can move forward with new projects as the grant allows for two days a week, instead of just one."

## Update On Our Bat Research

Thanks to a Regional Environment REHN grant in 2022, we have been able to upskill and increase our knowledge of the *pekapeka* or long-tailed bat on the peninsula. This year we enlisted the help of Auckland's Kaipatiki Project and they saturated the field with 10 listening devices and got 'hits' in two places and, on a second sweep 600 bat echolocations on the far side of Mclroy's Reserve (Cohan Bay Rd), with a direct line of sight to our first 'hits'.



Above: Neil Henderson, Kaipatiki Project, mounts a bat recording device on Pukapuka Rd.

### DONATIONS TO MWP: BANK A/C 06-0483-0894183-00

Thanks for your generosity over the past year - we're putting it to good use. Please tag new donations to MWP as pest tools, weed control, or native plants etc.

## Controlling Wild Ginger



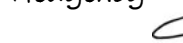
Above: Use a pruning saw or flax cutter to slice the tops off rhizomes and apply Cut'n'Paste gel.

The Regional Park's buffer zone contract for asparagus fern has been extended to December. If you're within the 500m zone and would like a free super-sized weed bag, a Cut'n'Paste gel pen, or just some advice, please contact Nada Cottrell (see below). The Auckland Council's invasive weeds compliance team is currently asking owners to deal with other invasive weeds as well, e.g. wild Ginger (Kahili) which encourages the growth of asparagus fern, with its rhizomes acting as reservoirs of moisture.

## Trap.NZ Data For July

Trap coordinator Jeff Marsh says, "Firstly, a big thank you for all the work our trappers have done towards making our community a much safer place for our native species. We appreciate the challenges and frustration of the work, but already we are seeing a difference in both the birdlife and recovery of trees. As a result of our trapping numbers, MWP has been successful in obtaining more funding for bait stations, lures and traps with a grant from Foundation North for high tech traps, and even a small fund to pay a part-time trapper.

|                            |              |                 |                |  |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|--|
| Total Traps in Field: 1215 |              |                 |                |  |
| Bait Stations: 374         |              |                 |                |  |
| Monitoring Stations: 1     |              |                 |                |  |
|                            | <b>Total</b> | <b>365 Days</b> | <b>30 Days</b> |  |
| Possum:                    | 2366         | 594             | 62             |  |
| Rat:                       | 2083         | 837             | 87             |  |
| Hedgehog:                  | 297          | 100             | 3              |  |
| Mustelid:                  | 133          | 59              | 7              |  |
| Other:                     | 897          | 360             | 28             |  |
| <b>Total:</b>              | <b>5776</b>  | <b>1950</b>     | <b>168</b>     |  |



### CONTACTS

Brian Bramell: Chair [BLBCIMS@gmail.com](mailto:BLBCIMS@gmail.com) 021 0257 5957  
 Nada Cottrell: Comms [nada.mahuwestpest@gmail.com](mailto:nada.mahuwestpest@gmail.com) 021 137 4132  
 Stephanie Herron: Secretary [stephanie.herron@mac.com](mailto:stephanie.herron@mac.com)  
 Fran Ashton: eBirds [ashton.sager@gmail.com](mailto:ashton.sager@gmail.com) 021 260 2793  
 Gay Miers: Weed Control [gay.miers@gmail.com](mailto:gay.miers@gmail.com) 021 0468 352  
**Website:** <https://mahurangiwestpest.wordpress.com>  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mahurangiwestpest>

### TRAPLINE AREA COORDINATORS

2 Jeff Marsh (Jamieson): [jeff.marsh@mccollams.co.nz](mailto:jeff.marsh@mccollams.co.nz) 027 590 9245  
 2 Lyn Ladyman (Opahi): [brianlynemal@gmail.com](mailto:brianlynemal@gmail.com) Ph. 09 422 0797  
 1 Ian Cheesman (Hungry Creek) [ian@graphics.co.nz](mailto:ian@graphics.co.nz) 022 049 5434  
 3 Hugh Kininmonth (Bullock Track) [hughkininmonth@gmail.com](mailto:hughkininmonth@gmail.com) 021 979 350  
 4 Mike Neil (North Mahu West) [mikeneil1951@gmail.com](mailto:mikeneil1951@gmail.com) 027 474 1160  
 7 Stephanie Herron (Pukapuka) [stephanie.herron@mac.com](mailto:stephanie.herron@mac.com) 027 257 7763  
 5 Peter Johnston (South Mahu West) [staceydo@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:staceydo@yahoo.co.nz) 0274767561  
 6 Hugh Kininmonth (West Mahu) [hughkininmonth@gmail.com](mailto:hughkininmonth@gmail.com) 021 979 350