

READ ONLINE AT WWW.GREATBARRIER.CO.NZ/AOTEAADVOCATE



JON TOOGOOD ROCKS GREAT BARRIER ISLAND IN SPECTACULAR TOUR FINALE

Over the weekend, rock fans on Great Barrier Island enjoyed an unforgettable night as Jon Toogood wrapped up the New Zealand leg of his "Last of the Lonely Gods" tour at Claris Club. This final performance on Aotea was a thrilling showcase of Toogood's dynamic talent, a fitting close to his NZ tour before taking his show international. Joining him on stage was the incredible Dianne Swan, and the night kicked off with local legends Shaun and Z, adding a touch of island flair to the lineup. The packed-out show was a celebration of live music, drawing in locals and visitors alike for a high-energy night. The audience's enthusiastic response reflected the unique spirit of Great Barrier Island and the community's passion for live music.

G Star Entertainment, the force behind the event, expressed their heartfelt thanks to everyone who came out and supported, making the evening such a huge success. With this show, G Star Entertainment has set the stage for a massive summer on Great Barrier Island. Next up is *Hell Freezes Over - The Kiwi Eagles Experience* at The Currach on December 14, followed by what promises to be *Barrier's BIGGEST Party* on New Year's Eve, also at Claris Club. And this is only the beginning - many more events are in the pipeline to keep the island buzzing all summer long. To keep up with the latest events, follow G Star Entertainment on Facebook or visit www.gstar.co.nz



Photo by Bruce Crossan.

LET'S PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT
AK HAVE YOUR SAY



SUMMER PRINT SCHEDULE

We will be continuing with monthly issues with more pages.

Note, we will be doing two issues in December to kick-start summer.

Thank you for all the support and enthusiasm for this community news resource.

Looking to make a submission or advertise? Email us on AoteaAdvocate@gmail.com

Next Submission Deadline: 2 December by 10am Next Issue Available: 5 December



NOV/DEC EVENT CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10	11	12	13	14 Somatic Movement & Meditation with Eunate 1.30-2.30 Try Hall Small Island, Big Ideas Outside In Palau at 6:30pm on AoteaFM	15 'Tau' by Aria Whaanga & Metal Germination by Adam White Runs Nov 15 - Dec 3	16 Yoga 9am Tryphena Hall What's that Bird? with Charlie Thomas OME Eco-Hub 9:30-11am
17	18 Gentle Yoga 10am Tryphena Hall Island Screens Maurice & I 7pm BSC with special guest	19 MEETING Local Board Extraordinary Business Meeting 3pm Local Board Office Yoga for Presence 5:30pm Art Gallery Yoga at Okiwi kura 5:30pm	20	21 Somatic Movement & Mantra Meditation with Eunate 1.30-2.30 Tryphena Hall Small Island, Big Ideas Outside In at 6:30pm on AoteaFM	22 Hatha Yoga 10am Glenfern	23 Yoga 9am Tryphena Hall Everybody's Market 10am-1.30pm Arts & History Museum Open Studio Ceramics Elise Bishop 10a-4p 111 Hector Sanderson Road, Claris
24 Raupō Taranga with Rodney Ngawaka at Glenfern 10-3pm Bring a picnic Open Studio Ceramics Elise Bishop 10a-4p 111 Hector Sanderson Road, Claris	25 Gentle Yoga 10am Tryphena Hall Island Screens The Convert 7pm Barrier Social Club	26 Local Board Ordinary Business Meeting 1pm at CCC Six Inches of Soil - Film Screening Okiwi kura at 7:15pm Free Entry	27	28 Somatic Movement & Mantra Meditation with Eunate 1.30-2.30 Tryphena Hall	29 Hatha Yoga 10am Glenfern Garden Tour Feast & Auction 6pm at Sunset Lodge, Tryphena Tickets at gbigardentour.nz	30 Spectacular by Nature Garden Tour Tickets at gbigardentour.nz
01 DECEMBER Stonewall Village Annual Rose Show 10am - 1pm Judging at 11am	02 Deadline 10am for Issue 15 Island Screens ABC Surf Movie Night The Road to Patagonia 7pm at Barrier Social Club	03 Yoga for Presence 5:30pm Art Gallery Yoga 5:30pm at Okiwi kura	04	05 Issue 15 Available Summer Kick-off Issue Somatic Movement & Mantra Meditation with Eunate 1.30-2.30 Tryphena Hall	06 Aotea Bird Count True Tales of Aotea Book Launch Details within '60 Days of Summer' Launch See details below	07 Santa Parade Market from 10am Parade at 12pm At Claris Club See full details below
08	09 Gentle Yoga 10am Tryphena Hall	10 Yoga for Presence 5:30pm Art Gallery Yoga 5:30pm at Okiwi kura	11	12 Somatic Movement & Mantra Meditation with Eunate 1.30-2.30 Tryphena Hall	13 Hatha Yoga 10am Glenfern	14 Devonshire Teas at St. Johns Church 10am-2pm Fundraiser with OpShop & Car Boot Sales (Every Saturday through Nov till mid-Dec)
15	16 Deadline for submissions for next issue of Advocate 10am Gentle Yoga 10am Tryphena Hall	17 Yoga for Presence 5:30pm Art Gallery Yoga 5:30pm at Okiwi kura	18	19 Issue 16 Available Somatic Movement & Mantra Meditation with Eunate 1.30-2.30 Tryphena Hall	20 Hatha Yoga 10am Glenfern	21 Yoga 9am Tryphena Hall Growers and Makers Market 10am CCC

WANT TO SUBMIT AN EVENT? EMAIL US AT AOTEAADVOCATE@GMAIL.COM

Yoga Class same details as above or below

FIND THE FULL EVENTS CALENDAR ONLINE AT WWW.GREATBARRIER.CO.NZ/EVENTS

MARKET AND SANTA PARADE
To the Streets
LOLLY SCRAMBLE MR AND MRS CLAUS STALLS, FOOD & REFRESHMENTS, PLANTS & ALL SORTS OF PARAPHERNALIA
PRIZES TO BE WON
Jingle Bells
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH
FOR MORE INFORMATION, STALL BOOKINGS OR ENTERING A FLOAT, CONTACT THE CLUB
09 4290 260 / clarisclub@xtra.co.nz
MARKET: 10AM
PARADE: MIDDAY
CLARIS SPORTS CLUB
19 Whangaparapara Rd, Claris, Great Barrier Island

Tau
By Aria Whaanga
Exhibition
15 Nov - 3 Dec
At Aotea Arts & History Village
80 Hector Sanderson Road, Claris

Aotea Arts & History Village
6 Dec - 6 Feb
60 Days of summer
By Aotea Artists
Please contact Helen
coordinator@aoteaarts.co.nz for more
information

LOUD & SWEARY FISHERWOMAN

Loud, swears, tattooed, heavy machinery driving, DJing, surfing, fisherwoman Jade Webster shares her story with Tim Higham on the Monday morning Island Stories show on AoteaFM.



She recounts how she first came to the island over 30 years ago.

Jade has always been a shining star in our community; running heavy machinery with Tom Daly Senior's crew, an avid surfer who was on the cusp of competitive surfing and would like us to know she did in fact beat Kelly Clarkson back in their day, to learning and playing drums with Shaney B and so much more.

Catch up on Jade's interview on Island Stories Podcasts on Spotify.

Other Island Stories Recent Shows:

Shane Kelly, Marine Biologist: *Rock Lobster, Leaving these fifty-year-old animals on our reefs is best.*

Leanne Eloff & Deb Kilgallon: *A Charter School, new plans for Kaitoke education.*

Catch up on all Island Stories podcasts on Spotify, as well as all Small Island, Big Ideas International Series from Outside In, which is nearing its final episode!

Spotify: @Island Stories Podcast
www.aoteafm.nz/island-stories-tim-higham

SPECTACULAR BY NATURE GARDEN TOUR FAST APPROACHING

Always wanted to go on the Garden Tour but never got round to it?

Now is your chance to grab tickets!

The famous 'Spectacular by Nature' Garden tour put on by the Great Barrier Island Community Health trust as an annual fundraiser takes place on Saturday 30 November and there are still a few tickets available.

This is a unique opportunity to view a variety of residential gardens on the Island. The guided tours will enable you to visit charming cottage gardens, to see spectacular coastal panoramas and experience the hidden native flora and birdlife. The ticket includes tour transportation, a scrumptious Morning Tea and a charming Devonshire Afternoon Tea.

The Garden Tour is a major fundraiser for the Great Barrier Island Community Health Trust, enabling it to purchase equipment for use on the Island. The event involves many 100's of hours of community volunteer time and energy and the participant feedback has been outstanding. It has become a very

popular event, national and international celebrities who have participated in the past tours, quote that it is 'a must-do event' for every keen adventurous gardener.

As part of the event there is also a 'Friday Feast and Auction' on Friday 29 November at 6pm at Sunset Waterfont Lodge in Mulberry Grove. The event involves guest speaker Jules Moore, the multi award winning landscape designer. Like the tours, tickets can be prebooked online

Visit: www.gbigardentour.nz



HAERE MAI KARLLIE CLIFTON

Kia ora e te whānau o Te Kura o Okiwi me ngā tangata o Aotea,

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Okiwi School community and the wider Aotea community for the incredibly warm welcome I've received in my new role as Tumuaki/Principal of Te Kura o Okiwi.

While I am new to this role, I am not unfamiliar with Aotea Great Barrier Island. Since my first visit in 2011, I have had the privilege of working on and off the island in various capacities. Most notably, I served as a teacher in the Hillcrest High School programmes at Hillary Outdoors, where I had the opportunity to connect with many community members in the northern part of Aotea. Additionally, during the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 seasons, I worked as a hiking guide with Walking Legends, and

many of you may remember me from that experience. Most recently, I managed the girls' kāinga (boarding hostel) at InZone Education and taught at Epsom Girls Grammar School, where I had the pleasure of working with some of our rangatahi from Aotea.

I am truly grateful to finally call Aotea my permanent home and to be a part of the Okiwi community. If you ever need to reach me, please feel free to email me at tumuaki@okiwischool.co.nz.

Ngā mihi nui, Karllie Clifton



TRUE TALES BOOK LAUNCH

On 6 December, the latest edition of True Tales of Aotea/ Great Barrier will be unveiled at the art gallery in Claris.

If you've never read True Tales before, now is the time. The new version has had a full redesign, with a new and improved layout. But it sticks to the essence of what True Tales is about - classic island stories, as told by the people who made and lived them.

From true crime to Barrier men who fought in the Great War; from local yoga to local surfing; from the backstory of the Claris Club to the extraordinary lives of our settler families, True Tales will surprise you, make you laugh, and leave you once more in awe of this amazing place we call home.

Edited by Kathy Cumming, designed by Sarah Matthew and lovingly overseen by Great Barrier Island History Research Group chair Tony Christiansen, True Tales is a perfect Christmas gift for anyone with links to Aotea.

There'll be a special launch price of \$35, and wine and cheese. Kick-off is 4pm. Everyone is welcome.

To pre-order a copy of the book, email: gbihr@outlook.com.



REMINDER FOR DENTAL SERVICE

Great Barrier Island Community Health Trust have now arranged for a dentist to run a dental clinic on the island.

Dentist Mike Reardon will be running 'Aotea Dental' but also works as Clinical Director for The Oral Care Company in Auckland.

The clinic will run from from the Community Dental Clinic in Claris.



Clinics are starting mid November. You can call to arrange an appointment now on 09 524 2494.

This fantastic new service will mean residents can access more affordable dental treatment.

Let's keep this service here and get booking appointments!

COMMUNITY FOCUS

AFSG QUIZ NIGHT SUCCESS RAISES FUNDS FOR NEW VAN

Aotea Family Support Group is thrilled to announce that our recent Quiz Night raised \$1230 towards a new van for our youth programmes!

There was a huge turnout and a great atmosphere, delicious food, and lots of laughs. Congratulations to all of the prize winners!

AFSG wants to thank Quiz Mistress Heidi Mills, Claris Club, CandyShell's Kitchen, and our volunteers for all of their hard mahi. Further thanks to the Rural Support Trust for their contribution to the event, we couldn't have done it without you!



ABOVE BOARD

October's business meeting began with a minute's silence for the following four souls who had passed away in the previous month: Barry Cooper, Thea Jade Howie, Gordon Francis, Mike Waterhouse. The board also acknowledged Roger and Kylie's service to the island.

Then to public forum; heaving, due to it being decision day on local grants.

As usual a very heavily oversubscribed round; for example, \$311,980 worth of capital grants was applied for, compared with the roughly \$150,000 the board is usually willing to part with in the first of two funding rounds for the year.

Almost every group who'd applied for money turned up to speak to their application, which is great - it shows they're invested in their proposed project, and it also gives everyone else a chance to hear more about what they're up against.

To sit there and listen to all the groups pitch their projects is a privilege. What a lot of cool shit we do on this island!

As Nancy Tait from the Aotea Education Trust said: "I've just been sitting here thinking wow, that's such a great Kaupapa! Give them the money!" Judy Gilbert from Windy Hill: "How cool is it to hear about all the stuff that's going on. This is always a great chance to catch up on what's happening."

Each person had three minutes to speak. There were lively discussions, good questions from board members, a few laughs, and only a couple of digressions (including King George VI's fear of public speaking, and Izzy's misty-eyed recollection of a team netball trip. "I remember a netball tournament in Rotorua. We'd come from the Barrier and we were just blown away. All these whistles going at once! We didn't win, but we got best attitude."

That's the way.

Then the crowds disbursed, and it was decision time. I present to you, the funding allocations in Round 1, Local Board Grants, 2024-25:

LOCAL GRANT ROUND:

Great Barrier Island Health Trust

Towards transportation and goodie bags for the Spectacular by Nature Garden Tour on 30 November 2024

Requested: \$3060.73. Awarded: \$2785.41

Aotea Family Support Group

Towards wages, travel costs, scaffold hire, coastguard support, hats and food for the Manu competition 2025

Requested: \$5850.00. Awarded: \$5850.00

Great Barrier Island Environmental Trust

Towards wages and administration fees for Aotea Caulerpa Response Team Coordinator from 4 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

Requested: \$25,000. Awarded: \$25,000

Mulberry Grove School

Towards accommodation, flights, transport and tournament fees for the Aotea schools netball collective from 4 November 2024 to 8 November 2024

Requested: \$7920.00. Awarded: \$6886.95

North Barrier Residents and Ratepayers Association

Towards admin wages for the NBR&R Administrator role from 11 November 2024 to 8 November 2024.

Requested: \$9720.00 Awarded: \$6148.34

Dark Sky Enthusiasts Group

Towards purchase of a meteor observation station for 129 Mason Road

Requested: \$550.00 Awarded: \$550.00

Gt Barrier Island Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade

Towards plumbing hardware for water tank fittings

Requested: \$3000.00 Awarded: \$3000.00

CAPITAL GRANT ROUND:

Aotea Family Support Group

Towards van purchase and associated costs
Requested: \$50,000.00 Awarded: \$35,000.00

St John Community Church

Towards exterior painting of the Church at 560 Medland Rd

Requested: \$15,000.00 Awarded: \$7500.00

Aotea Education Ltd

Towards basketball hoop set up, concrete base and freight at 50 Kaitoke Lane

Requested: \$11,000.00 Awarded: \$8479.34

North Barrier Residents and Ratepayers Association

Towards engineering review and supports for Port Fitzroy Wharf

Requested: \$50,000.00 Awarded: \$50,000

Kawa PT 3 Maori RS. (Aka Ngatiwai O Aotea Kawa Marae)

Towards septic tank, plumbing, gas ovens, shower installation, building materials at Kawa Marae

Requested: \$32,681.00 Awarded: \$6843.85 (towards the new oven)

Motu Community Nursery Ltd

Towards construction of a native plant nursery
Requested: \$24,025.52 Awarded: \$20,000.00

Mulberry Grove School

Towards a reversible basketball/netball hoop at Mulberry Grove School

Requested: \$6,200.00 Awarded: \$5375.00

Glenfern Sanctuary Trust

Towards solar power purchase and installation at 20 Glenfern Road

Requested: \$25,324.00 Awarded: \$15,000.00

Finally, I'd like to note that newly appointed Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust Board chair Fletcher Beazley was at the business meeting. He was there to formally introduce himself to the board and see if there were any matters board members wished to raise, but of course he had to sit through seventeen FUNDING APPEALS. He was sanguine. "It was interesting to watch the process. Don't worry, I have no money to ask for ... this time around anyway!"

Fletcher outlined the trust board's new governance structure, in which each trustee has been allocated a pou, or area of focus. He also presented a calendar of things the trust plans to do between now and the end of 2025. "I haven't said no to adding other things, but we need to focus on a few key things, with tangible actions. We are trying to prioritise. Getting our people to deprioritise is a struggle. We need to find a balance between aspirations, and what the trust is capable of delivering."

There is mandatory requirement for at least two members of the trust to be permanent residents on Aotea, and Fletcher plans to be on island once a month. The board is looking forward to developing its working relationship with Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea.

Above Board is written by Kathy Cumming. Kathy is Auckland Council's Community Broker, but she covers these meetings as an independent journalist (so she can use more fruity language).

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Notification of Works Starting

Aotea Great Barrier Airport to Claris Village (pathway renewal works)

Please be advised that Fulton Hogan was awarded the contract for the Airport to Claris Village pathway renewal works.

Works have started and the estimated completion date is 20 December 2024.

Track width will be widened to 1.8 metres from 0.9m width currently

Work hours: 7:30am - 6:00pm (Monday to Saturday)

Works area: Hector Sanderson Road - Aotea Arts and History Village area

Scope of works:

Tree Removal | Dig out and prepare footpath base | TripStop installation where required | Drainage where required | Concrete placing | Spreading topsoil

Contact details for any queries:

Contractor Project Manager (Fulton Hogan):

Christian Manuopangai

Mobile: 027 405 0353

E-mail: Christian.Manuopangai@fultonhogan.com

Auckland Council Project Manager: Jénean de Bruin

Mobile: 021 579 368

E-mail: jenean.debruin@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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FOOD RESILIENCE TEAM LAUNCH NEW WEBSITE

Food Resilience Aotea Website

We are thrilled to announce that the Food Resilience website is live! As well as giving local folks an insight into what is going on in the Food Resilience space on Aotea, in terms of workshops, markets, projects and other events, it will also act as a permanent resource for growing and using food on Aotea.

Home gardeners on Aotea grow a LOT of food! If we added up the area taken up by all the home gardens on Aotea, it would come to one humongous market garden! So, we are slowly building up a collection of articles on growing which relate to our unique situation and way of life. We will introduce new articles and resources as they are created on our Grow Food Aotea Facebook page and through our monthly newsletter.

Visit our new website at:

www.foodresilienceaotea.nz

Growing Tomatoes

Tomato Bed Preparation and Feeding

Tomatoes are known as heavy feeders... makes sense when you consider how much fruit they can produce!

This means they need rich soil.

To your tomato bed, add plenty of:

- Compost (at least a double handful per plant)
- Ground-up eggshell or milk powder (for calcium- this prevents blossom end rot)
- Seaweed meal/liquid seaweed fert - apply weekly when fruiting starts
- Fish meal/liquid fish fert - apply weekly when fruiting starts
- A large handful of neem granules (to deter the Green Vegetable Bug aka Green Shield Beetle)- reapply monthly sprinkling into small holes made with a garden fork a few inches away from the base of the plant.
- Rock dusts can add minerals but this will be at a slow release rate that relies on microbes to make the nutrients plant available

Planting Tomatoes

Space your tomatoes at least 60 cm apart. It seems this summer there could be a lot of heavy rain if a La Niña forms so the key is to reduce humidity. And we are generally humid anyway, La Niña or not!

Mulch the beds

Apply a heavy thick mulch of whatever organic matter you can get around the tomatoes; this

will conserve moisture, keep weeds at bay and feed the soil. Keep the mulch away from the stem itself.



Pruning/Delateralling and De-leafing

Removing laterals on a tomato plant serves several purposes

First, having less foliage means

- less humidity around the leaves (which can foster diseases)
- less opportunity for bugs such as the psyllid, corn earworm and green vegetable bug to lay their eggs

Secondly, the tomatoes that develop from the main stem will be bigger.

It is best to remove laterals while they are still small, as this causes less damage than snapping off big long shoots. Also energy will be channeled into the main stem. Avoid using a knife or snips- just snap the lateral off by hand.

Remove lower leaves and continue to do this as the tomato grows keeping around 10 leaves only. This will not reduce the fruit but will keep your plant healthier.

Warning: Be careful not to remove flowering trusses - these come directly off the stem and can be hard to distinguish from laterals at the top of the plant!

Try to remove the laterals and leaves on a weekly basis.

Bush tomatoes do not need to be pruned.

You can find the full article on our website!

Words by Caity Endt, Food Resilience Coordinator



\$50,000 INTO WARMER, DRIER ISLAND HOMES

Back in 2012, 241 island homes were insulated thanks to the government's Warm Up New Zealand: Heat Smart programme. The scheme has since been renamed Warmer Kiwi homes, but still offers a whopping 80-90% subsidy for home insulation.

Over the last few years, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) has tried a few times to organise a "mop up" second push on the Barrier; in other words, get the programme back to insulate local homes that qualify for the subsidy, but missed out in 2012.

Only this year did we manage to pull together enough homes to justify reviving the project. But what a revival! Over the next month,

21 local houses will be insulated, from Tryphena to Nagle Cove, thanks to a \$50,000 investment from EECA.

The installation team will travel to the island next month to retrofit the houses.

"For the first time since my house was built over 100 years ago, winter will be warm," says Erica Archibald, whose old farmhouse in Awana benefitted from the subsidy. "I'm beyond excited; less firewood collecting and no more socks to bed - happy days!"

"I am so grateful for the subsidy to insulate under the floor at my place and end up with a warmer house," says Malcolm Harre.

A big thanks to EECA for its persistence and cooperation.

Words by Kathy Cumming - Community Broker

0508 CRAFTY

info@solarcraft.co.nz

solarcraft.co.nz

LOCAL REFERENCES AVAILABLE

HAVE YOUR SAY

HAVE YOUR SAY: LET'S PROTECT AOTEA'S ENVIRONMENT

How do you think the natural environment of Aotea and Tāmaki Makaurau should be protected?

The 'Let's Protect Our Environment' consultation is open now until 8 December 2024 and Auckland Council is inviting Aucklanders to provide feedback.

Have your say on how the region should protect its natural environment and primary production over the next decade from invasive species and new threats.

"We all have a part to play in protecting our natural environment. Aotea in particular, is home to some unique and threatened wildlife, such as tāiko / black petrel and striped skink," says Dr Imogen Bassett, Auckland Council Head of Natural Environment Specialist Services.

What will we be asking Aucklanders?

The current plan, which runs until 2030, is still in effect. However, with Auckland's changing climate and the arrival of new exotic species, we need to start reviewing things now, so the new plan is ready to take effect in 2030.

Before we begin drafting the new plan, we want to know your views about:

- Achieving pest-free islands and peninsulas in the Auckland region and contributing to a predator-free Aotearoa by 2050
- Managing exotic caulerpa seaweed and other harmful marine species

- Reducing the spread and impact of harmful freshwater species like freshwater gold clam

- Options for cat management to protect threatened native wildlife

- Addressing the impact of climate change on our natural environment.

"Tū Mai Taonga have asked us to explore whether desexing might be made mandatory for all owned cats on the island (whether resident or visiting from the mainland), and if only island residents should be allowed to transport cats to Aotea," says Dr Bassett.

"We want to hear from all Aucklanders, but especially Aotea residents and landowners on this topic. We also know Caulerpa has been a topic of keen interest to Aotea residents in recent years."

Izzy Fordham, Chair of the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board, highlights the importance of community involvement in shaping this 10-year plan and encourages everyone to give their feedback for this early consultation.

"Our parkland, beaches, and diverse ecological areas are part of what makes Aotea unique – there's no place in the world like it," says Fordham.

"This consultation asks what we can do to continue and improve the protection of our motu. Focuses include looking at recent impacts on our native species and ecosystems such as exotic caulerpa and

other pest species, as well as resilience against climate change.

"On Aotea, council relies on working alongside the community, volunteers and conservation groups. So, please let us know what's important to you and how we can continue to protect our environment for future generations."

Get involved

Have your say and let us know how we can work together and protect Auckland's environment – the 'Let's Protect Our Environment' consultation is open from 25 October to 8 December 2024.

We encourage you to give feedback using the online form at www.akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/protect-our-environment.

You can also find options to email, post, or drop off your feedback at AK Have Your Say.

Alternatively you can read the consultation document and fill out a hardcopy form at the Great Barrier Island Service Centre and Library in Claris.

Public feedback, along with input from mana whenua, stakeholders, and technical experts, will help shape the next 10-year plan. When the draft plan is ready in 2027, Aucklanders will again have the chance to provide feedback.

Altogether, we can protect our natural environment, Māori cultural values, primary industries, native wildlife, biodiversity – and achieve more than we could alone.



Have your say on improving the traffic-related bylaws

Auckland Transport (AT) and Auckland Council (AC) would like to remind the public that feedback is open until 4 December on a proposal to consolidate, clarify, and simplify Auckland's traffic-related bylaws.

The below proposals will not change the way you are currently allowed to drive, park and move around Auckland.

The main proposal is to:

- Combine the **AT Traffic Bylaw 2012**, the **AC Traffic Bylaw 2015**, and clause 16 (concerning **vehicles on parks and beaches**) of the AC Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013 into a single, consolidated **Vehicle Use and Parking Bylaw 2025**.

This proposed new bylaw will cover topics currently in three different bylaws relating to where vehicles can be driven and parked on roads, parks, beaches, unformed roads, berms, council community facilities, public transport stations, busways and during special events.

Further changes are proposed within the new Vehicle Use and Parking Bylaw 2025 to help us respond to current and future issues:

- Moving the rules about **vehicles on parks and beaches** from the Public Safety and Nuisance bylaw to the new Vehicle Use and Parking bylaw. There will be no changes to the existing rules about vehicles on parks and beaches, rather the change will allow us to more efficiently enforce any unsafe driving and unauthorised parking.
- Adding the tools available under the Land Transport Act 1998 regarding **heavy vehicle use and parking** to the bylaw. This includes the ability to restrict heavy vehicles from parking in areas where they are causing problems for the community (e.g. where they are blocking visibility).
- Define 'off a roadway' more clearly to increase certainty about where parking is prohibited. This will allow us to install signage and begin enforcement faster in areas where the community has told us there is a problem (e.g. where parking is causing safety concerns at a local park, or damaging utilities under a berm).

Some proposed changes do not introduce any new rules or powers, and aim to clarify existing rules, such as:

- Distinguishing between bus lanes, busways, busway stations, and park and rides, and clarifying who can use them.
- Referring to resident parking schemes using the same language as Auckland's Parking Strategy.
- Clarifying how we temporarily manage driving and parking for special events like parades, festivals, and markets.

We are also proposing to tidy up the bylaws by moving or removing clauses that are better suited or already in other bylaws, or do not need to be in a bylaw.

To support the proposed Vehicle Use and Parking Bylaw 2025, we are proposing supporting amendments to other bylaws. These are the AT Activities in the Road Corridor Bylaw 2022, the AC Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013, AC and AT Signs Bylaw 2022, to address road damage caused by building work and regulate certain activities involving vehicles (like advertising, sale, repair or disrepair) and things left on roads.

This information is available in large print on request.

Contact us on 09 355 3553 or email trafficbylaw@at.govt.nz

Please visit haveyoursay.at.govt.nz/trafficbylaw for more information or to submit your feedback. You may also find information at your local Auckland Council Library.

NATURE & ENVIRONMENT NOTICES

OPERATION GLOXINIA: TAKING DOWN THE PLANT THAT THOUGHT IT COULD CLIMB THE LADDER

Climbing Gloxinia (*Lophospermum erubescens*), an invasive species native to Mexico, has been identified as a significant threat to the native ecosystems of Aotea. Known for its aggressive growth and rapid spread, it competes with indigenous plant species, particularly in coastal and forested areas, and poses a risk to native biodiversity. Its seeds are dispersed by wind and human-mediated dispersal through deliberate planting or through spread of seed. Currently there are 4 known active infestation on the Island, the largest seen in Whanagaparapara. While early results suggest a decline in Climbing Gloxinia numbers, ongoing monitoring and adaptive management are critical for the long-term success of eradication. If you know of or see any Climbing Gloxinia report to Auckland Council.

Words by Nik Erikson, Senior Conservation Advisor, Auckland Council



KAURI DIEBACK AERIAL SURVEY



Over the next few weeks a helicopter will be working over Aotea - Great Barrier Island in search for kauri trees that have symptoms of kauri dieback disease. Each survey will take approximately two hours of flying time over two days. It is likely to be seen tightly circling over areas of forest, with survey staff taking photographs of kauri with poor canopy health.

Kauri exhibiting ill health will have GPS points taken for a follow-up on ground investigation. Most of the work will be undertaken over the Aotea Conservation Park and if any points are mapped on private land, we will contact landowners and ask for their permission to take soil samples.

The pathogen *Phytophthora agathidicida* that causes kauri dieback was first reported from Whangaparapara in 1974 and has become widespread since then. This work will help build a better picture of kauri dieback disease and inform management plans to protect kauri on the island.

For more information about the aerial survey, please email kauri@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

For general information on kauri dieback disease, visit kauriprotection.co.nz

Raupō Taranga

Sunday Summer Series at Glenfern Sanctuary

with Rodney Ngawaka



10am-3pm

on the last Sunday of each month

Sun 24 Nov | Sun 29 Dec | Sun 26 Jan
Sun 23 Feb | Sun 30 Mar

Come, be inspired and view the environment through the lens of local mana whenua.

Please bring a picnic, coffee and teas will be provided.

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WHAT'S THAT BIRD?

with Charlie Thomas

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER
9.30 - 11.00am
OME ECO-HUB, MEDLANDS

Come on down to the OME Eco-Hub for a morning of in-the-field bird identification with Charlie Thomas (Forest & Bird, Pest Free Hibiscus Coast). Refresh your ID skills, and learn the 5-minute bird count method.

Email: contact.gbiet@gmail.com to RSVP & for more information.



Kia ora Aotea!

Let's talk about our community.

Get in touch about any local issues or if you need support. I'm here to help and would love to hear from you.

Chlöe Swarbrick MP for Auckland Central
chloe.swarbrick@parliament.govt.nz | 09 378 4810

Funded by Parliamentary Service. Authorised by Chlöe Swarbrick, Green MP for Auckland Central, 1 Cross Street, Auckland.



AOTEA BIRD COUNT 2023: TRACKING THE BIRDS OF BIRDS OF GREAT BARRIER ISLAND

The Aotea Bird Count (ABC) project continues to offer invaluable insights into the bird populations of Aotea, Great Barrier Island. Now in its fifth year, the 2023 ABC report reflects data collected in December 2023 across 21 monitoring sites and highlights key findings about the island's bird populations, particularly focusing on trends for some of New Zealand's most iconic and vulnerable avian species. The count, led by the Aotea Great Barrier Environmental Trust, the island's three sanctuaries (Glenfern, Motu Kaikōura and Windy Hill), Auckland Council and DOC, draws on the dedication of volunteer counters, community support, and funding from Auckland Council and other conservation partners.

Key Findings from the 2023 Count

Top Bird Species

Consistent with prior surveys, some species stood out for their prevalence across the island. The five most frequently observed species this year were kākā, tūi, kingfisher (kōtare), grey warbler (riroriro),

and fantail (pīwakawaka). These species, often heard and seen at most sites, serve as representatives of the vibrant birdlife that makes Aotea special.

Target Species Monitoring

One of the primary aims of the ABC project is to track trends for four key target species: kākāriki (red-crowned parakeet), kākā (brown parrot), tūi, and kererū (New Zealand pigeon). These species were selected for their ecological significance and vulnerability to habitat changes and invasive species. In 2023, tūi and kākā were observed island-wide, while kererū were recorded at 57% of the sites, showing a decline compared to previous years. The kākāriki, whose population on Aotea depends heavily on pest management, was observed only at Okiwi, emphasizing the need for continued conservation efforts.

Site-Specific Observations

Bird sightings varied notably by location, with Rangitawhiri-Tryphena registering the

highest individual bird count (253). The diversity of species was highest at Kaitoke, gmail.com for further information which recorded 25 different species, and was lowest at Cooper's Castle, which only recorded 8 species. This variability underscores the importance of monitoring multiple sites to capture the range of bird community structures across the island.

To read the full report, head to:

www.gbiet.org/bird-count

Aotea Bird Count 2024 is being held on 6 December.

There are a few bird identification course refreshers being offered over the month of November, including "What's that Bird" with Charlie Thomas from Forest & Bird from Pest Free Hibiscus Coast on November 16th. See full details on Calendar or to the right

Please get in touch with contact.gbiet@gmail.com



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GET INVOLVED

Auckland Council is working towards eradicating and keeping out a number of high risk pest plant species from Aotea. We need your help to hunt these plants out.

- Visit inaturalist.org
- Join project 'Aotea High Risk Weeds'
- Identify and record your weedy find!



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