

## Bushy Park Festival 2009

The 2009 Festival was held on Sunday 22 March, two months later than its traditional date of the January Wellington Anniversary Weekend. Despite the change of date, organisers Caroline Burrows and Suzanne Sherris were delighted with all who came along to the Festival and enjoyed the wide range of stalls, food and entertainment on offer.

The Festival is an important event for Bushy Park Trust to promote the Park. Putting on an event of this size and scale takes a lot of planning, advertising and team effort to ensure that visitors enjoy a fun and entertaining day out. Thanks to the many local businesses and organisations who sponsor the event each year.

Unfortunately Caroline and Suzanne are unable to organise the Festival next year so we are seeking anyone who would be interested in helping with this.

The 2010 Festival will be held on the Sunday of Wellington Anniversary Weekend (24th January).

## Appeal For Bequests

The Trust can think of no better use of members' and supporters' legacies than as a bequest for Bushy Park. An endowment fund has been created with the returns used to run the Park and to help free its Trustees from financial worries.

The goal is one million dollars and while this will take some years to attain we ask that you give this serious consideration to help preserve what will be in effect be a living legacy. Please consult your lawyer.



Photo by: Paul Gibson

Ruud Kleinpaste "the Bug Man" guest speaker

## Bushy Park Fundraiser Dinner

Funds raised to go towards Bird Feeding and Viewing Stations

Guest Speaker: Ruud Kleinpaste - 'The Bug Man'

Venue: Kingsgate Hotel,  
379 Victoria Avenue, Wanganui

Date: Friday 30th October 2009

Time: 6.00pm

Cost: \$50.00 per head (Only 120 tickets available)

Tickets held at BNZ Wanganui Store

Contact: Bronwyn Crow, AH: 06 347 6408

## Volunteers

Bushy Park is always in need of volunteers to help. Maybe you have an hour or two a month you could put aside to help out. Tasks could be planting, weed eradication, track maintenance, bird counts, transporting kiwi eggs to Rotorua, guiding visitors around the Park to name a few.



### Trust Contacts:

|                    |              |                           |                   |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Treasurer:</b>  | Brian Rhodes | PO Box 471, Wanganui 4540 | Ph: (06) 345 7817 |
| <b>Membership:</b> | Bronwyn Crow | 138 Grey Street, Wanganui | Ph: (06) 347 6408 |

Bushy Park Homestead, 791 Rangitatau East Road, Wanganui. Phone (06) 342 9879  
[www.bushyparksanctuary.org.nz](http://www.bushyparksanctuary.org.nz) Email: [info@bushyparksanctuary.org.nz](mailto:info@bushyparksanctuary.org.nz)

## Bushy Park



Photo by: Paul Gibson

# NEWSLETTER

August 2009  
[www.bushyparksanctuary.org.nz](http://www.bushyparksanctuary.org.nz)

## Bring a friend to Bushy Park and experience the latest restoration of this wonderful sanctuary.

Silently much is happening at Bushy Park. Bring your visitors to see this amazing forest with the mighty "Ratanui" NZ's largest northern Rata tree. Many rare birds abound, happy to be in this safe environment and singing their little hearts out for you to hear.

## Our Beloved Leader Has Retired But Not Gone!!

Allan Anderson has retired as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of Bushy Park, a position he held for 12 years.

This is huge loss to Bushy Park but a gain to the greater Wanganui as he has been elected as a District Councillor and voted onto the Board of the Whanganui District Health Board. As well as becoming a Justice of the Peace. This all within a year.

*Allan is passionate about Bushy Park and has spent an average of 40 hours a week for the last ten years working voluntarily and travelling over 200,000 kms in his own vehicle - all at his own expense.*

Allan's skill with public speaking has earned Bushy Park the status in the community it has today.

Allan has made countless applications for funding and was mainly responsible for the \$1m that was required to establish the 4.8k Predator fence around the Park to create the predator free Mainland Island / Kiwi crèche it is today. Not only did Allan write and speak for Bushy Park, he also turned his hand to most of the practical tasks about the Park. If there were any problems at the Park, Allan was called first. If he didn't know how to fix it he knew someone who would.

*Allan continues to work in the background for Bushy Park and is presently working with DOC's help to introduce more rare species to the Park.*

He is greatly missed leaving Bushy Park more valued for having his skill and contribution.

We wish him well as he continues his community life. Just to complete this amazing man's contribution to conservation and the community he was earlier this year awarded the Queen's Service Medal in this New Year Honours list.

A huge thank you must also go Allan's wife Rosemary for allowing him to spend so much time away from home. Also the countless meetings and phone calls which were held at their home, knowing at times he put Bushy Park before personal commitments.



Allan Anderson Q.S.M., J.P.

Photo by: Meteor



Photo by Paul Gibson



### Saddleback (tieke)

A total of 50 nests were found from mid September 2008 to late April 2009. In total, 26 saddleback females bred during the third breeding season. The twenty six females present throughout the breeding season had 1 - 9 fledglings. A minimum of 74 chicks fledged during the breeding season.

*Although hard to see in the forest their calls highlight their presence.*

Thank you Kelly for your continuing monitoring of the saddlebacks.

*Report by Kelly Brider*

### LEOTC - Learning Experiences Outside The Classroom

After 9 years of funding from the Ministry of Education, Bushy Park was unsuccessful in its current application for future funding.

Terry O'Connor has been the education officer for this time and a valued member of the Bushy Park Team.

Terry has contributed greatly to the awareness of conservation to the countless numbers of children visiting Bushy Park through the school programmes.

Terry often gave many hours voluntarily to predator control when not teaching, often walking and checking the fence line for damage and doing the countless tasks required to keep Bushy Park a safe haven for our rare birds, flora and fauna.

*Thank you Terry for your valued contribution to Bushy Park and we wish you well for the future.*

### Kiwi Report

This season more than 20 kiwi chicks will have been crèched at Bushy Park, the most ever. The majority of the kiwi chicks were sponsored which has made it a very busy, but rewarding season. Many of the sponsors who had never seen a kiwi were able to come to Bushy Park and see their sponsored bird released into the Park. When the chicks have reached their release weight the sponsors return for another look at their bird, before it is released back into the wild.

Thank you to all who have taken eggs to Rainbow Springs for incubation and those who have picked up kiwi chicks to bring them back to Bushy Park. Your help is invaluable.

*from Bryan Christie*



Photo by Theo Perry

*Pictured at the iconic 'Ratanui' are, from left: Bryan Christie, Bushy Park Conservation Officer; Evelyn Gauntlett and David Richards, Tindall Foundation; Kelly Brider, wildlife ranger.*

Two members of the Tindall Foundation visited Bushy Park recently as part of a tour of various initiatives in the region supported by some of the Foundation's fund managers.

WWF-- New Zealand is one of these and is a significant funder of rare bird projects at Bushy Park. In addition to earlier work with kiwi and the initial translocation of saddlebacks from Mokoia Island, WWF- NZ is currently funding kiwi and saddleback monitoring being carried out by Kelly Brider, one of the Park's wildlife rangers. The visit included the viewing of saddlebacks, bellbirds, tui and the large flocks of kereru at Bushy Park.

### Bushy Park in the "Top 25"!

#### *Global Restoration Network - Australia/ New Zealand*

The selection of the 'Top 25' projects was made by a panel set up by the EMR journal with support from the Ecological Society of Australia.

The 18 month search for the 'Top 25' projects was initiated by Ecological Management & Restoration, the management-oriented journal of the Ecological Society of Australia (ESA), in partnership with ESA and the Society for Ecological Restoration International (SER International), the world's premier restoration body.

Large and increasing efforts are being made to rectify the enormous negative landscape transformations that have occurred in both Australia and New Zealand (Australasia) over the last 200 years.

Bushy Park has been selected in that search as one of the most outstanding restoration projects in Australia and New Zealand. The aim was to highlight projects that might inspire and encourage restorationists throughout Australasia and elsewhere across the globe.

The specialist panel was made up of two ecology professors, two natural area managers, a consulting ecologist and the EMR journal's editor.

#### **The New Zealand projects include (in alphabetical order):**

- Bushy Park Sanctuary
- Fiordland Island Restoration
- Mana Island Scientific Reserve
- Maungatautari Ecological Island
- Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project
- Te Urewera Mainland Island
- Tiritiri Matangi Island
- Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park (Highly commended).
- ZEALANDIA-Karori Sanctuary Wellington

*This was a mammoth task to prepare this application and we must thank especially Allan Anderson and his helpers. To be recognised by a world authority on the nature restoration in this way has to be good for Bushy Park.*

### Grant from Columbus Zoo

A grant of \$US 5,000 (\$NZ 8,000) from Columbus Zoo, Ohio to assist with Kelly Brider's monitoring of both kiwi chicks and saddlebacks is even more evidence of the high esteem in which Bushy Park and its staff are held. Bushy Park can truly claim to have international standing in the conservation world.

Both Kelly and Allan Anderson have been working with Columbus Zoo for over a year to achieve this grant, and with the contract being signed in July the Trust can point to the valuable work being done by Park rangers and the fitting recognition by Columbus Zoo which has a proud record of supporting wildlife recovery programmes worldwide.



Photo by Theo Perry

### Bushy Park Homestead Warms Up

The days of a cold homestead are about to become a memory. Warm, fluffy Novatherm insulation has been laid in the ceiling and shiny twin foil Air-cell has been fixed beneath the floor.

Our thanks to the Stout Trust and Perry Foundation.

New aluminium doors have been fitted to the south facing porch areas which have already shown a big improvement in keeping out the cold winter winds.

It is hard to see that the new doors are not part of the original building.

A winter visit to Bushy Park is a rewarding experience. The bush is fresh and green. Kereru are plentiful, paradise ducks honk noisily overhead and pukekos roam the wetlands paddock. Robins keep visitors company in the forest and saddlebacks are singing everywhere.

The views are magic and warming up in front of a fire while enjoying a cafe treat is now an attractive option.

