



# Centennial Park Bush Society Newsletter

P O Box 31 677, Milford, 0740  
www.centennialparkbushsociety.org.nz

Newsletter No 67, March 2009



## CBUS takes off



*Campbells Bay Urban Sanctuary*

Campbells Bay Urban Sanctuary will be officially launched by Forest and Bird national president Peter Maddison on Sunday 19 April, at 2.30pm, Huntly Reserve, Huntly Road, Campbells Bay.

Free sausage sizzle. Tea & coffee. Pot up your free native plant. Colour a bird. Come and socialise & bring the family.

## What's CBUS?

Campbells Bay Urban Sanctuary project aims to encourage native trees and wildlife in the bay and improve beach and stream water quality. CBUS is about raising awareness of, and practical management of, plant and animal pests and water quality. Campbells Bay's large area of undeveloped land, comprising 40 hectares of golf course – which has some bush remnants -- and 28 hectares of Centennial Park bush, is unique in East Coast Bays. Our bay also has significant pockets of mature bush in private ownership. This rich bush cover makes Campbells Bay an important link in the North-West Wildlink chain of bush reserves which joins the offshore islands to the Waitakere ranges. Plant pests are a constant threat to native bush and need to be controlled on public and private land. Control of possums and rats will help birds and invertebrates flourish. With your help we can expect to one day see increasing numbers of birds in the bay, including bellbirds, kereru, and kaka. And, yes, our secret little beach is superb but it needs protection from erosion and water pollution.

### CBUS aims

- to involve all stakeholders in a positive way
- to increase native bird life
- to reduce the number and impact of rats, possums and stoats
- to raise awareness of and, where possible, eliminate pest plants and trees and replant with non-invasive bird-friendly species
- to improve stream and beach water quality

Newsletter No 67

March 2009

### CBUS Launch

- Sunday April 19
- 2.30pm
- Huntly Reserve
- Campbells Bay
- All welcome.  
Bring your family.

### Inside this issue:

Management Pain	2
Park Pests Feed Elephants	2
Kowhai Rd Restoration	2
Damn The Rhamnus	3
Weed Aware	3
Working Wonders	3
Projects Map	4



## Management Pain

Centennial Park's management plan is being rewritten. The resource consent granted last year, permitting the removal of invasive acmenas, wattles and a small fraction of the park's pines, has been targeted by a vocal minority. It seems Takapuna Community Board may rescind landowner consent, thereby rendering the consent inoperable. The acmenas, wattles and pines will be protected! Volunteers who spend thousands of hours each year removing invasive species – so the park can flourish –

are devastated. It's not yet a done deal. If you support Bush Society workers, please write to the mayor and city councillors asking for the resource consent to be upheld.



**The management plan should protect the native vegetation in Centennial Park**

## Park Pests Feed Elephants

Arundo grass, or giant reed, is a huge, floppy bamboo look-a-like and it's great elephant tucker. Recently we combined with Auckland Zoo to collect a huge truck-load of arundo from a native restoration area near the golf course 15<sup>th</sup> tee. Wednesday Workers removed the reed and helped load the truck. We also supplied heaps of bamboo – a red panda favourite. Apparently

*Visit our new website*

[www.centennialparkbushsociety.org.nz](http://www.centennialparkbushsociety.org.nz)

giraffes like to play with it. Elephants prefer arundo and apparently they like acmena too. Pity we can't arrange a pachyderm picnic – the park's got a few acmena to spare.

## Kowhai Rd Restoration

Adjacent to the Golf Club workshop on Kowhai Road is a 1700 sq m shoulder of once-neglected, weedy land. Privets and wattles have been removed by Bush Society volunteers and the council. Pampas grass has been controlled by one of our keen volunteers and soon an area will be prepared for winter planting. Council is supplying most of the plants. Our provisional planting date is 9am Saturday June 13. If you want to help weed, spread mulch, or plant -- please contact the Bush Society.

**Volunteers from the Bush Society and golf club remove weeds from Kowhai Rd.**





## Damn The Rhamnus

*Rhamnus alaternus*, or evergreen buckthorn, is almost out of control in Campbells Bay. It's a highly invasive plant, which is spreading to offshore islands. DoC spent \$200,000 trying to control it on Rangitoto Island last year. The ARC has conducted an audit in our bay and confirms rhamnus is growing wild in many gardens. What to do? Rhamnus has already hit the park and further dissemination could prove disastrous. If you have rhamnus on your property PLEASE remove it. Treat the stump. For advice and help call us.



**Rhamnus or Evergreen buckthorn should be removed now**

## Weed Aware?

In 2003, an AC Nielsen survey of weed awareness, attitudes and behaviour revealed people fit into three broad groups:

- Unaware -- 20 per cent
- Aware but uncommitted – 50 per cent
- Aware and active – 30 per cent

Many respondents didn't know that growing weed plants, or dumping garden waste, causes ecological damage. Weed knowledge is also lacking. Which group do you belong to? Information on invasive plants is available on our website or on the ARC site. If in doubt ring the Bush Society.

## Working Wonders

In February, Stan, Jan and Joe, three of our keenest volunteers, featured in a Parks Department *North Shore Times* advertisement. The Parks Department puts on a thank-you function each year, which is when this photo was taken. The trio are tireless park workers. Stan is our main plant propagator and nurseryman. Thousands of natives have been potted up at Stan and Jan's and their plant-packed garden is, says Jan, "a sight to behold". They have gifted plants to

other North Shore restoration organisations. Joe is a tireless park advocate and is one of our most active members. He has a sharp eye for an invasive plant! The ad didn't mention these three belong to Centennial Park Bush Society -- one of the most active native forest restoration volunteer groups on the Shore.



**Stan and Jan Knight and Joe Greig**



*Newsletter No 67, March 2009*

Centennial Park Bush Society Inc  
 P O Box 31 677  
 Milford 0740  
 E-mail: richard.hursthouse@xtra.co.nz  
 www.centennialparkbushsociety.org.nz

Centennial Park Bush Society Inc was formed in 1976, and carries out native forest restoration work in Centennial Park, Campbells Bay. This involves removing invasive weeds, planting native plants, trapping animal pests, track maintenance, advocacy with council, and raising community awareness.

**Your committee – if you have any queries or comments please phone one of us**

Richard Hursthouse - chair 410 5339, Jenny Chamberlain - secretary 478 6385, Max Thomson - treasurer 479 1681, Cathy Roughan 478 1909, Liz Goodwin 479 4485, Margaret Palmer, Roland O'Driscoll 410 5456, Joe Greig 410 9987, Jan Knight 478 5518, Peter Bioletti 478-1402, Bruce Rogers 473 5189

**Yes, I want to support the Bush Society**

**Membership is by tax deductible donation**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email (please) \_\_\_\_\_

Existing member yes no

I would like to be notified about working bees yes no

I would like to receive newsletters only yes no

Please send me \_\_\_ copies of *Just Scrub* the story of Centennial Park bush \$10 each

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to our address above or to The Treasurer, 16 Sandford St, Campbells Bay**

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Or Direct Credit to Centennial Park Bush Society Inc

Account number 389001 0816766 00

and email Bushsoc@gmail.com with receipt address details.

**We appreciate the support of North Shore City Council, Pupuke Nine Hole Social Club, Signtech and our local donors.**



**Weed control and planting projects**

1. top of Kohekohe track bamboo
2. 16<sup>th</sup> tee acmena and agapanthus
3. Aberdeen track bamboo removal
4. Aberdeen track jasmine, alocasias
5. Bush pine reduction
6. Maintenance weed control of valley
7. Road renewal, weed control
8. Avenue of Remembrance
9. Acmena removals
10. Wetland restoration & Waicare water monitoring
11. Sandford St accessway
12. Asbury Crecent accessway
13. Centennial Place accessway
14. Bamboo removal
15. 14<sup>th</sup> tee weed control
16. Park Rise accessway
17. Park Rise bush
18. Playcentre
19. Kowhai Rd restoration
20. 15<sup>th</sup> tee
21. 17<sup>th</sup> tee
22. Golf club acmena removals
23. Rae Rd entry landscape plan

More information on all these projects on the website

