

Annual Report Korokoro Environmental Group for the year ending 31 July 2019. Sunday 8 December 2019

We have had another really good year for the Korokoro Environmental Group, with increased activity and some new energy. Thanks in particular to Daniel for generating activities and networking, and to Julie, Jenny, Ollie, Ruth, Paul, Clive, Sue, Tamsin and Ant, and new members Joshua van Lier

Practical Environmental Work

Pest Monitoring: Julie took on the coordination of the pest monitoring weekends. Thanks very much to Paul for doing this consistently well for many years. There were some safety concerns early in year about the state of lines. GWRC has done some work and there is more going on later this year. GWRC has also taken on the most challenging line.

Working Bees: Clearing and Planting:

Thanks to Daniel for organising several working bees at Inanga Love Park, and a clean up

around Korokoro. The Inanga Love park area now has some healthy native plants around its edges. In April Daniel also organised a stream inspection by Sarah from Mountains to Sea Wellington, to help KEG volunteers look for fish eggs and to talk about the fish life of the stream.



Thanks to RIBA Greally, HCC Reserves Community Ranger for her support.

Enviro and Gardening Group at Korokoro School: Clive has continued with the garden and the shade house and the enviro group, and some plantings around school. The school group also undertook some water quality testing in Galbraiths Gully, and planted some of their trees there as well.

Pest Control on residential properties. We got 50 traps and have gradually distributed them around the community, with only half a dozen left now. Some are using the TrapNZ site.

Education and Information

Pest management session

We organized a pest management information session at the end of October 2018. This was quite well attended, and we distributed 13 of the 50 traps that we received through the Hutt

City/GWRC community pest management programme. We also had someone from the Normandale Pest Management group talking about what they are doing.

Korokoro Community News.

We contributed to each of the KK Community Newsletters. Thanks to Daniel, Julie, Ruth Mansell and Clive for helping with this. Obviously thanks to Kelly for taking on the KK Newsletter role.

Predator Free Hutt City:

Julie and Paul Thomas attended a meeting of pest management and conservation groups around the Hutt Valley. There is increasing interest in coordinated predator control.

Conservation Showcase in Hutt City. We took part in the Western Hills stall at this event, which was held at the Centre City Plaza on 15th September. This event was held as part of the 50th anniversary of New Zealand's Conservation Week, an event begun in 1969 in celebration of New Zealand's unique environment and the groups working to preserve it. The event showcased and celebrated community groups and schools, promote local biodiversity.

Website and facebook: Thanks to Ollie for picking this up. We are now getting more frequent updates on the website.

Advocacy and Networking

Land Development

We communicated with Cuttris about a substantial land development planneds for 70 Maungaraki Road. Our main concerns were around threats to the ecology of the gully stream and safety for people using the road as a result of increased traffic and exit driveways. We also organized a community meeting with Cuttriss and the land owners. This was well attended.



Local Body Election Advocacy and Event

We sent a set of questions to all local body candidates, on their attitudes to a number of issues important to locals, such as P2G/transport, climate change, biosecurity. We also ran a very successful 'Meet the Candidate' event, which all Mayoral candidates attended, and many candidates for GRWC and Councillors. The second half of the meeting was a speed dating event, where attendees had five minutes to talk to any candidate they chose. The event went on long after the set closing time.

Networking

Thanks to Daniel for organising some great liaison events, including with Quentin Duthie, Friends of Belmont Park, Zealandia

In March 2019 Ruth and Julie walked around the hill with Mayor Ray Wallace. Ray was keen to hear about the impact of developments and other issues affecting Korokoro residents.

KEG Finances, membership and meetings

Thanks very to Jenny for taking on the Treasurer role, and to Daniel for reinvigorating the membership lists.

Tino pai rawa atu. Well done everyone.

Julie Haggie Chairperson