



Kaipatiki Project

Inspiring communities to live sustainably

Autumn/Winter 2009

Te Radar evening a big success

It was a beautiful late summer evening when around 100 people joined the birds, creatures and biting insects of the forest to listen to Te Radar's frank and very funny stories at Kaipatiki's fundraising picnic in February.

The Kaipatiki committee did a wonderful job in organising this event which brought in \$1,800 for the organisation - special thanks to Radar who waived his fee for appearing too. Many of those attending commented that they would like to see Kaipatiki organise more community 'entertainment' in the local reserves and this is something we will certainly look to do in the future with project funding.



As one door closes, another opens...

The **Nursery Bites** native plant propagation workshops may have come to an end on 21 May but the enthusiasm for Kaipatiki's free training opportunities is still going strong.

During the 14-week programme, **Nursery Bites** taught a total of 41 participants all about eco-sourcing and propagating seeds, making plants from cuttings, and growing native trees plus much more.

Not content to wait until next spring for the **Nursery Bites** programme to be repeated, many participants have now signed up for Kaipatiki's latest

free training series (run in partnership with Okahu Rakau, native plant specialists) on **how to organise, promote and run community planting days**.

The 13 budding planting day co-ordinators are learning about promotion, health & safety, site preparation, hosting and native plant identification. Skills are taught at 12 planting days, over 4 months, and in 3 cities (North Shore, Auckland & Waitakere).

We extend an all-year-round welcome to volunteers in our Nursery on Monday and Thursday mornings; call 09 482 1172 or email cwiapo@ihug.co.nz



www.kaipatiki.org.nz

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Little Green Nuggets

Between 1 July 2008 and 30 April 2009, the Kaipatiki Project has:

- taught 1452 school children, in 13 different groups, about worm farming, composting and the bush;
- delivered 41 *Create Your Own Eden* courses and taught 647 adults about composting, worm farming and Bokashi;
- 352 volunteers have completed 4290 hours of work – including planting trees, potting plants, weeding etc.

and

- in 2008 Kaipatiki Project planted 11,800 plants.
- to date in 2009 we either have or will plant 9,900 plants... with more to come.



Smells like sustainable living ... Image courtesy of Cinevista.

Come and see '**The Real Dirt On Farmer John**', a very special film screening hosted by Kaipatiki Project at Northcote Point's Bridgeway Cinema on 14 July - see page 3 for more details.

Corporate Volunteering - Kaipatiki-style

Get your hands dirty (if you must!) but there's a lot more to a day out of the office as our corporate volunteer partners are finding out.

Throughout the year Kaipatiki Project takes bookings from business groups wanting a corporate away-day or team-building experience with a difference. Our Centre and the surrounding forest reserves that we care for are just a 20 minute drive from the Auckland CBD. We will gladly tailor a group's volunteering activities to their needs for a full or half-day.

We take bookings from businesses, clubs or community groups who wish to spend a day volunteering and/or learning at the Centre. Activities include bush walks, potting plants, flax weaving, weeding, or planting native plants grown in our own nursery (May to August only).

Hamish Hopkinson, Manager of the Kaipatiki Project, said "When a business sends a staff team to volunteer with Kaipatiki it is special on a number of levels: the number of volunteer hours contributes to how much funding we receive, the impact on the nursery here and the surrounding forest reserves speaks for itself, and just the fact that a group of people are willing to come along here, try some new things - some of which may be out of their comfort zone - and contribute in this way, sends a message out to other businesses, large or small, that they can give meaningful things back to the community and have great fun doing it."

Getting professional volunteer support for what goes on inside the Centre is just as important too. Kaipatiki needs help with promotions, communications and marketing as well as administrative and fund-raising tasks which might suit some volunteers better than setting possum-traps or digging over the compost.

We'd love to hear from any other businesses or groups wanting to participate in similar volunteering activities with us.

Interested? Contact Kristi Anderson on 09 482 1172 or email projects@kaipatiki.org.nz



The Corporate Partners Sales and Service team from IAG New Zealand Limited have signed up to be regular volunteers with the Kaipatiki Project, with six to eight team members coming out to work on the project for a day every month. The team's goal is to have 50 staff spend six hours each at the Kaipatiki Project, completing 300 hours volunteer work in total!

Team Manager Bart Taylor said the Kaipatiki Project fits well with his team's focus on sustainability and getting involved in the community. "The team is really excited about the chance to get out of the office and do something good for the local community and the environment. It's also a great opportunity for us to bond together as a team and have fun."

When asked why he selected the Kaipatiki Project, Mr Taylor said it ticked all the boxes.

"We were looking for a project that would be ongoing – not just a one-off. We work in a call centre environment and it would be impossible for us to send the whole team at once, so being able to split in to groups and volunteer on different days is ideal. The Kaipatiki Project offers flexibility and allows us to attend on the days that suit

us. And last but not least it's nice and close to our office so transportation is not a problem."

Mr Taylor added that the variety of the volunteer work, with everything from planting seeds and picking up rubbish to setting possum traps and cleaning up streams, really appealed to his team.

IAG New Zealand Limited is the largest general insurance company in New Zealand, trading under the State and NZI insurance brands as well as underwriting insurance for some of the country's leading financial institutions. The Corporate Partners Sales and Service team looks after the company's business with financial institutions.

Thanks to all of the staff from the other businesses who have enjoyed a volunteer awayday with Kaipatiki Project recently:

- Supply IT
- BNZ
- HSBC
- Genesis Energy
- Conservation Volunteers
- Auckland Teachers Association
- ASB Community Trust
- DLA Phillips Fox
- Altis Consulting
- Astra Zenica

MEETING SPACE

Kaipatiki Project's Environment Centre in Birkdale can be used as a meeting or training space for groups. It can comfortably hold 20 people, there is a kitchen and toilet facilities (however please note that we do not currently have disabled toilet facilities).

Contact us on 09 482 1172 or email admin@kaipatiki.org.nz

What's new at Kaipatiki Project?

Eskdale Reserve network Community Planting Days

Kaipatiki Project supports and enables community participation in the restoration of this reserve network of 67 hectares of kereru habitat. Each planting day offers families and individuals the chance to learn about native trees, shrubs and birds whilst providing fun and exercise in beautiful forest surroundings. Please bring a spade if you have one – healthy snacks and drinks provided. For more information call 482 1172 or email restoration@kaipatiki.org.nz

Planting Dates & Where to meet

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 6 June | 900 trees planted |
| 25 July | corner of Domain Road & Glenfield Road |
| 8 August | behind Kaipatiki Environment Centre, 17 Lauderdale Road, Birkdale
includes bonus presentation by Waicare on urban pollution & stream protection |
| 12 Sept | Glenfield Road, follow the signs |

**Saturdays 9.30am to 12pm,
come when you can.
Free BBQ, hot soup & lollies
All ages and abilities welcome!**

GOING GREEN ON THE SILVER SCREEN

“The Real Dirt on Farmer John”

Film Night Tuesday 14 July, 6.30pm

A community's shared philosophy about living sustainably is the key message of our up-coming film night at Northcote Point's Bridgeway Theatre.

Kaipatiki Project is hosting the screening of this award winning film, described as “a touching and entertaining portrait of a slightly oddball farmer” and “a record of many social changes in America”.

Kaipatiki's Manager, Hamish Hopkinson, said “Many people on the North Shore do not realise we are here to benefit the community. This film night is an opportunity to raise awareness. In these challenging economic times, Kaipatiki's solutions can help your wallet as well as the environment. “

Blogging with Rosie

When the guys at the New Zealand government's sustainability website were looking for someone to contribute a blog about composting they had to look no further than Kaipatiki's own Education Co-ordinator and Composting Guru, Rosie Hutchinson.

The site provides advice, links, a discussion forum and competitions on the key elements of living sustainably: [rubbish](#), [water](#), [energy](#), [building](#), [transport](#) and [climate change](#).

Use this link to read Rosie's blog about how to get worms working on your kitchen waste.

<http://www.sustainability.govt.nz/forum/2009/thinking-about-composting-which-system-should-i-choose>

Free Plants & Expert Advice for your Streamside Property

Struggling to work out what to do with the area around your stream? Confused about which plants are weeds and which are natives? Erosion problems? Inappropriately planted streamside?

Working on behalf of North Shore City Council, Kaipatiki Project provides free consultations and native plants to people with streamside properties (or properties next to a reserve that runs down to a stream).

Please ring for an appointment if you are in need of a little expert support and advice to set you in the right direction with your streamside property.

Jackie Knight, Natural Heritage Coordinator,
Kaipatiki Project 482 1172, email
restoration@kaipatiki.org.nz

Kaipatiki Project keeps on growing

With additional funds being secured and an adjustment of roles, the Board of the Kaipatiki Project are pleased to announce three appointments.

Hamish Hopkinson joins us as Manager, long time volunteer Roger Dallimore takes on the role of Nursery Manager and Jackie Knight has been appointed to the vacant Natural Heritage Coordinator role.

Board Chair Tabitha Becroft expressed her excitement in having both a full complement of staff and new faces: “We want to grow and having new, energetic and enthusiastic staff on board will go a long way to helping us achieve our goals”.

Improving how Kaipatiki communicates

Here we spill the beans on our radical plans to celebrate what we do & keep you in the know

- **Introducing the Kaipatiki Review**

This issue of the Kaipatiki newsletter is likely to be the last of its kind. Later this year we will be launching the Kaipatiki Review, published twice a year, which lets people know about our performance, picks out highlights of the past six months and packs in all the latest news about Kaipatiki, its projects and supporters. As well as printed copies, we will be using email to distribute the Review to all our friends and stakeholders.

- **Email newsletters**

At Kaipatiki there is always so much going on - workshops, courses, working bees, special events etc - that we don't want to wait for a newsletter to come out to tell people about it all. That's why we will be issuing more regular 'What's On' bulletins via email newsletters. We will also be keeping in touch with people who attend our courses and workshops in this way so that we don't lose touch with these valued supporters of our work.

- **Why email newsletters?**

Reducing the amount of paper we use, and the amount of money we spend on printing, are key parts of this new strategy and so communicating via email will be the principal method we will be using to share our news with you.

In order to do this, our staff will be building on our database of contacts and gathering email addresses for those who wish to stay in touch with us and those wanting to start receiving news from us in the future.

- **Improving the website**

With the help of volunteers the Kaipatiki website www.kaipatiki.org.nz has grown over the years, but like all good plants, it now needs cutting back and re-potting in some new compost! In other words we are going to be launching a new website later this year which will better reflect our work and what we stand for, and will also carry some new features to make life easier and more user-friendly for everyone.

- **Re-branding**

We are fond of our tui and kowhai flowers and it's hard to say goodbye but we think the Kaipatiki logo could do with some fresh thinking. We will be working to develop a new visual identity for Kaipatiki in the coming months.

WAI CARE AWARD

The Kaipatiki Project recently received a Wai Care award to recognise our 'dedication to regular water quality monitoring and data entry'. Kaipatiki was one of the original groups to volunteer in the programme and our contribution has been one of the more thorough and consistent. We received a \$100 Mitre 10 voucher for our efforts.

Roger Dallimore, a long time volunteer, supporter and currently Nursery Manager, has been responsible for Wai Care testing for the last 2-3 years. Kaipatiki would like to thank all those who have volunteered with the Wai Care water testing programme over the years, and particularly Roger for his diligent service.

Wai Care – www.waicare.org.nz

Special thanks to North Shore company, **Cognito Software**, who donated some seriously good accounting software to Kaipatiki Project. Also to **Advanced Refrigeration Ltd** for donating a fantastic new fridge to the centre and disposing of the old one.



Acknowledging our supporters

Core funders



ASB Community Trust
Te Kaitiaki Patea o Tamaki o Tui Tokerau
supported by ASB

Project funders

Birkenhead/Northcote Community Board
Glenfield Community Board



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Natural heritage - restoration@kaipatiki.org.nz
Education - education@kaipatiki.org.nz
Website - www.kaipatiki.org.nz



Te Kaunihera o
MANUKAU
City Council

Planting Day refreshments

