

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## The Meaning of Matariki

Matariki is the Māori name for the cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades. It rises in midwinter and is closely connected with the maramataka (the Māori lunar calendar). The reappearance of the Matariki stars in the early morning sky brings the past year to a close and marks the beginning of the new year.

Mātauranga Māori (ancestral knowledge and wisdom) is at the heart of celebrations of Matariki. Historically, the stars of Matariki were also closely tied to planting, harvesting and hunting. If the stars appeared clear and bright, it signified an abundant season ahead.

Matariki is a time for remembering and honouring those who have been lost since the last rising of Matariki. A time to gather together, to connect and be thankful and a time to look to the future and plan for the year ahead.

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## Join Us This Matariki

We are celebrating this special time of year and by learning how mātauranga (ancestral knowledge and wisdom) can help us reconnect with nature.

Dion Pou, Rivercare Group Te Wai o Pareira trustee and restoration ecologist who works within mātauranga Māori will share with us in a way that brings these complementary disciplines together to offer fresh insight and solutions to our current environmental challenges.

[Discover More](#)

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## And in August

Auckland has had an awful year with multiple flooding events.

Dr Matthew Bradbury, Architect, Professor and Author has research into what is contributing to the flooding and what we can do to help our city cope with increasing climate uncertainty.

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## Planting Day

Sunday 6th of August 10AM-1PM  
Tawa Esplanade, Matipo Road, Te Atatū Peninsula

Join us and give some love to your awa and the whenua that supports and surrounds her.

Our family-friendly planting days are loads of fun and it feels good to give back to your environment. Tools are provided but if you have your own, bring them along. Wear appropriate clothing and some sturdy footwear.

Kai will follow the mahi

Ngā mihi nui to EcoMatters Love Your Neighbourhood, Henderson Massey Local Board and wonderful community ranger from Auckland Council Kim Morris for supporting this kaupapa!

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