

A Very Busy Season

Kia ora e te whānau, we hope that you've had a great start to spring. Rivercare is coming out of a incredibly busy winter season with two community meetings, one community planting day, one school planting day and one maintenance day. We also put an official Rivercare Te Wai o Pareira submission into the storm recovery survey, on top of this Dion Pou and Peter Nelson were interviewed for RNZ. All this as well as our usual advocacy work, growing the profile of Te Wai o Pareira and liasoning with government organisations. Whew! That's a lot for a small team that runs mostly on volunteer hours, so thank you for your support that allows us to keep on doing what we're doing.

Read a little more about what we have been up to below.



RNZ Article

Auckland Council (Healthy Waters) plan to cover over a section of stream opposite Tawa Esplanade. Rivercare opposes this plan and believes that it is not consistent with Te Mana o te Wai principles. Dion and Peter were interviewed by RNZ about the covering of the stream, you can read the article [here](#).



Planting Days

Rivercare is working to restore a reserve in Te Atatū, known as Tawa Esplanade. Tawa Esplanade follows the path of a tributary that flows into Te Wai o Pareira. We, with the help of amazing volunteers, have done a significant amount of planting in this area. This August we had two planting days, one for the community and one for local schools

Community planting day

Our Community Planting Day was awesome, we had perfect weather and there was such a great turn out. We were able to get lots of plants in the ground and it is looking amazing at Tawa Esplanade now. Thank you to everyone who turned up, we hope to see you back at our maintenance days so we can keep the plants free from weeds and growing strong.

School Planting day

Last month we hosted Rutherford College and Matipo Primary for a tree planting and education session at Tawa Esplanade. The ground was a bit muddy but there were smiles all around. Having children involved with the restoration at Tawa is part of Rivercare Te Wai o Pareira's strategy to connect them to their place so they will grow up to love and protect it. Thank you to everyone involved with making this day a success, especially the teachers of Matipo Primary and Rutherford College and EcoMatters Environment Trust and Henderson-Massey Local Board for the kai.



Community Meeting- Urban Flooding

Our urban flooding meeting held on the 17th of August, had an excellent turn out and engagement by locals. Thank you Dr Matthew Bradbury for generously sharing your expertise with us, and helping us to advocate to create more environmentally resilient urban spaces.

Thank you to our sponsors who supported both this and the Matariki and Mātauranga Talk, The Trusts, Henderson-Massey Local Board and Te Atatū Peninsula Community Centre.



Comings and Goings

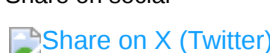
A big welcome to Oliva who is joining the team to take care of our website and to Chez who is taking on the restoration work at Tawa Esplanade. We look forward to working with you both.

And sadly we say goodbye to the lovely Lila Kuka who has been part of the Rivercare Te Wai o Pareira team for about two years. Lila has been a key person for Rivercare and has poured so much into her role. She has taken the initiative in getting our community engagement and in particular the engagement with schools set up and running. In addition, Lila has taken over and run the restoration project at Tawa Esplanade and run both maintenance and planting sessions at the site. She also set up active trapping lines in Tawa Esplanade and the neighbourhood group Renata Reserve. Lila is moving on to put her focus into the māra kai, called Awhi Mai Te Atatū, that she has established, with her friend Dalton Neho . It's a welcoming place to learn about and grow healthy kai in a way that steps lightly on Papatūānuku.

Thank you for all you have contributed Lila, We hope to continue to build on the excellent mahi that you have put in. And we wish you all the very best for the important work that you continue to do.



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