

# WRPS NEWS

Issue 185

Newsletter of The Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc.

May 2020

*The Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc. is a registered charitable entity in terms of the Charities Act 2005. Registration No. CC46103*

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[facebook.com/TheWRPS](https://facebook.com/TheWRPS)

## President's Report

I can add little to the vast amount of information that the Government has made available on Covid-19. The lockdowns and gradual opening up of the country have led to the low number of deaths due to the virus. New Zealand has done very well to keep the virus under control. Now in Alert Level 2 many businesses have reopened, and the predicted economic recovery looks possible under these restraints. The pandemic has affected all of New Zealand from Government to business and NGO's. The Society's last newsletter in February informed members of the AGM in March, but this had to be postponed under Alert Level 4 rules. We will renotify the **AGM** when it is possible to hold it, and in the meantime The Charities Commission has been informed.

While all this has been going on, our Treasurer Sandra Jones and Vice President Anna Fomison have been taking good care of Society business in my absence and I am very grateful for their diligence at this trying time.

The **audited accounts** for the Society have been signed off. Anna and Sandra have been working hard to get the **WRHA Act history book** to the publisher and we will hopefully see the first few chapters back from the designer soon.

Our new **website** went active in March. Thanks to our website designer our website has been migrated to a new platform and as the designer lives in West Auckland we will have much better access to his expert IT skills.

The WRHA is now once again part of the New Lynn electorate following a decision a month ago. **The new boundaries of the New Lynn electorate** now extend to Te Henga and Waitakere township while the northern part of Helensville's former electorate goes to Whangaparaoa or Kaipara ki Mahurangi. Dr Deborah Russell is currently the MP for New Lynn. As a good proportion of the Heritage Area was previously in the Helensville electorate, it is encouraging to see the new electoral boundaries are much more aligned with the Ranges. Those of you who live in the Ranges may need to change your enrolment details with [www.vote.nz](http://www.vote.nz).

Thanks to all members who have paid their annual

subscriptions and in many cases a donation as well. Your support is much appreciated.

John Edgar ONZM

## Heritage Area Co-ordinator Report

Since the February newsletter WRPS has put forward submissions on the following The Auckland Council Annual Budget (submitted March 2020), and the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (submitted March 2020).

### The Auckland Council Annual Budget

The WRPS submission on the Auckland Council Annual Budget focused on water quality in the WRHA and specifically the on-going discussion around aged septic tank management.

WRPS outlined our support for the continuation of the pump-out sewerage service and the necessary increase in targeted rates, however disagreed with excluding inspections as part of this process. It would be most efficient for comprehensive inspections to be a part of the service. WRPS supports the priorities laid out for the Waitakere Local Board.

### National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB)

The National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity will be a significant tool in maintaining and improving the health of our indigenous biodiversity and ecosystems, and add greater overall protection of spaces such as the WRHA and support the WRHA Act.

It has significance to the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area (WRHA) particularly because in the WRHA Act it specifies that any inconsistencies between the RMA and the WRHA Act, then the RMA will prevail. The NPS-IB is intended to confer clarification and direction of the RMA. The draft NPS-IB failed to specifically mention pathogenic pests

such as the kauri dieback, so naturally we have urged in the submission this be included as an example in the NPS-IB. The submission put forward by WRPS was in support of the precautionary approach outlined in the NPS-IB in regards to any activities where effects on indigenous biodiversity are uncertain or little understood particularly as this pertains to management of pathogenic species.

Eva Wrassky-Bulmer

## Updates from our Treasurer

### SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

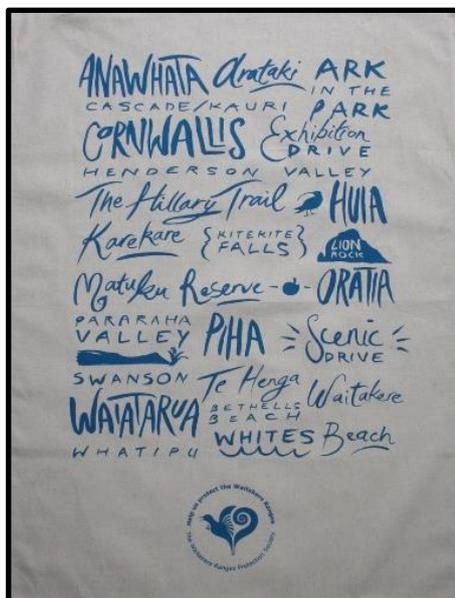
Subscription renewal notices for the period 1 Feb 2020 to 31 Jan 2021 were sent to all members in early February. If you haven't renewed your subscription yet, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. If you aren't sure, feel free to email me or phone me to check. I'd rather that you did that than pay twice. If you've lost/mislaidd your invoice, we'd be pleased to send you another. If you have previously paid by cheque and you aren't sure what to do about paying your subscription now that our bank is no longer accepting cheques after the end of February, please give me a call to discuss options.

Sandra Jones, Treasurer  
jsandra378@gmail.com  
09 817 2788

## WRPS Merchandise

We have a variety of merchandise ranging from high quality reference books to t-shirts, tea towels, uniquely hand-crafted mugs & bowls, a Don Binney poster print and bird prints by Mandy Patmore. For more details of the Society's merchandise please refer to the WRPS online shop at: [www.waitakereranges.org.nz](http://www.waitakereranges.org.nz). Thank you for your continued support

### Tea Towels



Made from unbleached 100% Indian cotton, designed in West Auckland by Julia Moore and screen printed by Karousel.

**\$17 each + p&p**

P&P costs vary according to number of tea towels ordered.

### Native Bird Prints



Unique Native Bird Prints, artwork by Mandy Patmore  
[www.mandypatmore.com](http://www.mandypatmore.com)  
[www.facebook.com/mandypatmore.artist](https://www.facebook.com/mandypatmore.artist)  
Limited run printed on quality paper.  
Tui and the Heron on A3 for \$40 each.  
Tomtit on A4 for \$30.  
To order please email:  
[treasurer@waitakereranges.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@waitakereranges.org.nz)

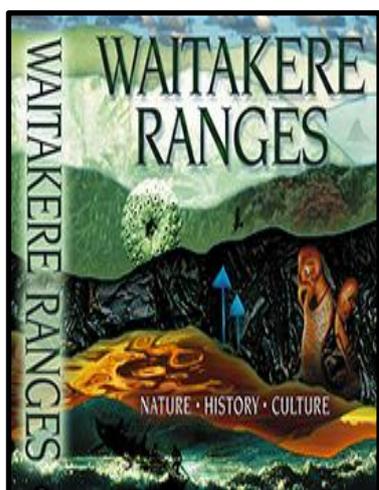
### T-shirts



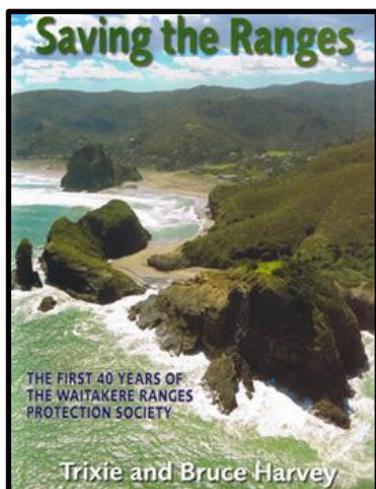
All T-shirts are 100% cotton except the grey marle which is 85% cotton /15% polyester. Available in a variety of colours, sizes and cuts for men and women. Please refer to our website for more details.



**Books**



*“Waitakere Ranges: Nature, History, Culture”*  
 The story of the Waitakere Ranges is written by many authors who tell us from various points of view what it is about the Ranges that they love and value.



*“Saving the Ranges: The first 40 years of the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society”*  
 The book tells of the many people who have contributed to the conservation and protection of the Ranges and makes it clear that the work of the Society would not have flourished without the hundreds of members who have given their support.

**Mugs & Bowls**



*Hand painted by Lynda Harris*

Tui, keruru, pukeko, kokako, kiwi, kakariki, kaka, takahe, torea pango (oyster catcher)



All mugs and bowls are priced at **\$35 each + p&p**  
*(P&P varies according to numbers and is available on request)*

**Order / Payment**

[Books]: Kiwibank Acc No. 38-9010-0379887-02  
 [Other items]: Kiwibank Acc No. 38-9010-0379887-01

**Paying by direct credit:** After making your payment online, email your order information to [treasurer@waitakereranges.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@waitakereranges.org.nz)

**Paying by telephone banking or over the counter at the bank:** Phone the Treasurer (09 817 2788) to confirm your order details.

## YOUR COMMITTEE

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<b>Secretary:</b>	Position vacant	
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*Committee meetings are held monthly, from February to November, on the second Wednesday of the month.*