



GuideLines

Number 356 – Thursday 21st March 2024

Tēnā koutou katoa

(Greetings, hello to you all)



Dear guides,

Ki te kotaki te kaakaho, ka whati; ki te kaapuia, e kore e whati
If a reed stands alone, it can be broken; if it is in a group, it cannot.

1. Guides needed on these dates

- Desperate early April – 3, 4 & 5 April

We urgently need guides on these days, as we don't even have enough to cover our school groups at the moment. Please help if you are able.

- Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday 30, 31 March & 1 April

We need another 3 or 4 more guides on each of those days – can you help?

- Other April dates

If you haven't yet booked your April dates, we'd appreciate hearing from you. I know that we have a few guides with trips coming up which will take them out of their usual guiding spots, so if you are able to help we'd love to hear from you. Please use booktguide@tiritirimatangi.org.nz and tell us your departure point.

2. We asked for feedback from guides – here's what you told us:

Bird books in bum bags – The majority were in favour of removing the books from bags, which we have done. You can still access them if you want them. They are in a paper bag in plastic box with the bum bags. I had a suggestion recently to use them to focus children in your group – have them try to 'spot the bird/tree'.

Visibility of guides to visitors and Guiding Manager – There were many suggestions and no general consensus on this. Suggestions included SoTM branded shirts (ranged from definite yes to definite no on this one), flags, SoTM branded hats, and guides putting hands up at allocation time. I am investigating lanyards printed with Volunteer Guide as something immediately visible and easy to manage. I would also like to have the safety contact number card attached to the lanyard in a plastic case so that you don't have to fish around in the bum bag to find and show to the visitors.

In the meantime, those of you on public guiding assembling at the back of the concrete on the side of your preferred track seems to be working well enough, especially with smaller numbers now. But we do need to make you more visible as Guides to visitors.

3. Health & safety reminders

Annual refresh on H&S plan – A copy of the plan (first two sections as relates to guides) is available in the office for you read through. There is also a form to sign to acknowledge you have read and understood – as is the annual requirement for all volunteers.

Please take care on the concrete, especially now heading into times when we're more likely to have rain. There have been a couple of slips resulting in injuries in the last six months, and other anecdotal references of near misses. Easy does it going down there. We want everyone home safely.

Still on the concrete – to ensure ourselves and visitors are safe we need to keep the concrete swept clear of gravel. There is an orange broom waiting to be used in the wharf shed. If you see it needs sweeping, morning and/or evening, please take the initiative and do a sweep.

It's great to see guides remembering to show the emergency contact card to their group at or near the start of your walks. It's about keeping you safe, so keep working on making that a habit. There should be one card in the plastic bag with first aid things, and another one free in the bag. Shelley and Peter recently checked all bags, so if anything is missing please bring the bag into the office at the end of your walk so we can fix it.

4. Magnifiers for public groups

We now have magnifiers available for use with public groups. I'm trying to figure out how we can fit them in the space at the back of the trailer, or somewhere else that is easily accessible for guides. Any ideas gratefully received.

5. Bum bags

A gentle reminder if you use anything out of the bum bag (first aid, wasp flag) please let me know so it can be replaced. Remember to identify the bag number – or better still, bring it in to the office so we can fix it immediately.

6. Guide Manual - updated

We have made some minor content and layout changes to the Guide Manual, including making the most recent version of Health & Safety plan accessible as an appendix. Shortly we hope to have that uploaded to the Guides Section of the website (in the Basic Guiding Material section).

7. Spread the word amongst friends and whanau

- **Explore are offering 20% discount** on week day sailings (use promo code SUPERWEEKDAY booking online) and 10% on weekend sailing (code SUPER10).
- **Specialist photography tours** - For your information – for photography buffs we have two specialist walks coming up.
 - 6 April with John Sibley
 - 13 April with Geoff Beals

Cost is \$25 per person, bookable through Explore or directly with us (shop@tiritirimatangi.org.nz). Normal ferry bookings with Explore.

SUPPORTERS OF TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND PRESENT

PHOTOGRAPHY WALKS

Come and enjoy a guided photography walk with an experienced Tiritiri Matangi photographer. The groups will be small with limited spaces.

Saturday 6th April
Saturday 13th April
Sunday 21st April

\$25 PER A PERSON

SUPPORTERS of

TIRITIRI MATANGI
incorporated

(The cost of the guided photographer walk is additional to the ferry cost)
Ferry bookings through Explore Group
www.exploregroup.co.nz or 0800 397 567



GIFT SHOP OPEN

- **Maritime History Open Day 20 April** – The lighthouse will be open together with the museum and watchtower. There is no additional cost, but donations appreciated for tours.

SUPPORTERS OF TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND PRESENT

MARITIME HISTORIC DAY ON TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to explore our maritime history through New Zealand's oldest working lighthouse.

You can climb the stairs for a fantastic view of the Hauraki Gulf and discover the lighthouse's inner workings.

Entry donations appreciated to assist with the Maritime Museum.

Mobility Requirements: Must be physically able to climb steep stairs and confident in confined spaces. Minimum age 7 years old.

Ferry bookings through Explore Group
www.exploregroup.co.nz or 0800 397 567

SUPPORTERS of

TIRITIRI MATANGI
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SATURDAY 20 APRIL 2024



GIFT SHOP OPEN

PHOTO CREDIT: GEOFF BEALS

Nga mihi nui

Gail Reichert

Guide & Volunteer Manager

027 222 7318

CONCERT

A huge thank you to everyone who supported this event. A big thank you to Stacey Balich, who did her magic with graphics for marketing and helped organise our team to ensure the event went smoothly. Once again, we had a number of volunteers who helped on the day. I greatly appreciated your support. Ranger Talia also added hours to her day to support us - it



is wonderful to have the continued support from our rangers. Explore also helps support this day by cancelling other events to run two sailings for us.

It turned out to be a gorgeous day and the band set up in front of the museum so our majestic

lighthouse sheltered concertgoers from the sea breeze and acted as a stunning backdrop. We greatly appreciated Hoop (above), Tweed (right) and the team supporting this event. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful evening of great music and even a bit of dancing. The conga was a sight behold.



We were all excited to welcome a very special VIP to the island for the concert. Trevor Scott was a light house keeper on the island in 1959-1961 and again in 1967-1970. He and his family came to watch his grandson play in the band "Tweed". Trevor donated a piece of history to add to our museum collection. It was lovely to meet Trevor and his lovely family. He told some wonderful stories of his time on the island.



EVENTS

We would like to put together an event team of volunteers who can help with all our events. If you are interested, please contact [Debbie](#).

Ngā mihi nui

Debbie Marshall

Operations Manager

021 029 01520

Flora News

The **kahikatea** in the Nikau Grove has beautiful and unusual orange fruit that the birds are loving; so much so this may be the only view you'll get of them this season. The purple-black section is the seed which the birds have to eat before they can get the orange fruit.

After it was discovered that kahikatea timber did not taint food it was used for boxes to export butter until strong cardboard was developed.



Guide Dennis has shared these photos of *dermocyste canaria* (skull cap) fungus on the Wattle Track taken a week apart. These were a definite highlight for the schools visiting in early March.



Fauna News

Takahē update

After their chicks' translocation, **Anatori and Tussie** have been seen in what appeared to be aggressive behaviour: Chest bumping, rigidly upright aggressive stance, some unusually loud calling and circling and twining necks. These are all displays of pair bonding behaviour, normal in the early mating season and also in times of stress.

The chicks have settled down with their new roomies at Burwood, and are busy learning the ropes in preparation for moving to their forever homes. Don't forget to check on where our takahē are these days on the blog here.



Guide Virginia has shared her delightful encounter with **kōkako Luna**, one of last season's offspring, romping alongside the Generator Track playing with twigs and pine needles before returning to her normal feeding routine.



You can see her capture of the pink wattles of a youngster hanging out at the Wattle sugar feeder with the korimako in this [edition's footer](#).

Tiritiri Matangi from the air

Guide Annie Albers asked a friend to video the motu from a helicopter. To see what the high flying birds see when they pass us by, [click here](#).

Invitation from Aotea Great Barrier Environmental Trust

We have received the following invitation:

"Aotea Great Barrier Environmental Trust would like to invite you to the opening of Erin Forsyth's exhibition on the Birds and Forest Taonga species of Aotea. The exhibition will open on Saturday 23 March (opening event 2-4pm) at the Aotea Arts & History Village, Claris. It will run until Monday 8 April. We hope to see you there!"

The exhibition will also launch our new 'Forest Taonga of Aotea' poster, the posters will be available for sale through the gallery and our website.

[Please click here](#) for Aotea Arts & History Village flyers, do get in touch if you have any questions."

Ask the Experts:

Send your most vexing questions to guidelines@tiritirimatangi.org.nz and we'll ask the experts for an answer.

Don't forget we love to get your favourite newsy photos for sharing.

Up and coming

Tiritiri Matangi Talks 2024 Monday 29th April – Seagrass Meadows

Put it in your diary and register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2ykOrmYwRfytV3v6h3cYbw

	Monday 10th June
SoTM Social	Monday 13 th May
Supporters' Weekends	Saturday 11th May
	Saturday 13th July
	Saturday 7th September
	Saturday 5th October
Working Weekends	Easter Weekend - 29th March
	King's Birthday Weekend - 1st June

Focus on Te Reo Māori

This is a major part in the New Zealand Curriculum across all levels in schools.

- 1. Helpful Guidelines for all SoTM members for upskilling in Te Reo Māori.**
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/maori-language-week/114961703/power-te-reo-maori-video-lesson-pronounce-words-with-confidence>
- 2.** The following link has been provided by the 2022 Year 11 te reo Māori students at Rangitoto College. It is excellent for learning about vowel and consonant sounds, and the use of macrons, in te reo Māori. It includes some key words specific to Tiritiri Matangi.
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/190hdBizxyx_2Cpe8DC8aMI4mly_ZUShyqjW62rN-6hvY/edit?usp=sharing
- 3.** Note the **Māori Bird Lore - An Introduction by Murdoch Riley** is available in the office for guides/ SoTM members to pick up and dip into during lunch breaks.
- 4. Kupu Māori / words.** Ideal to constantly check the aural: Te Aka Māori Dictionary <http://maoridictionary.co.nz/> The sound in Māori is often quite different from the way many of us have traditionally pronounced kupu / words.

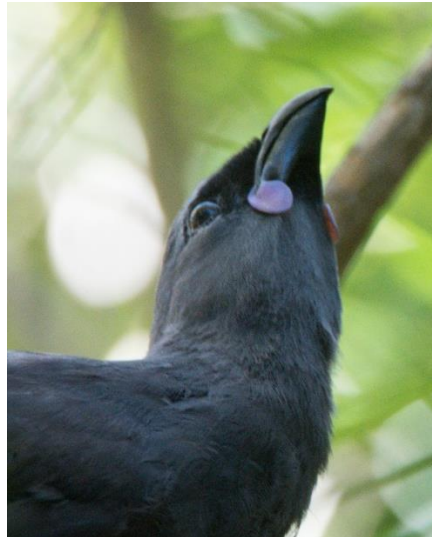
Cybersleuth

- [Officials preparing for inevitable 'tsunami' of bird flu coming to New Zealand](#)
- [Grand Union Canal: Sanctuary saving swans caught up in London oil dump](#)

- [An obsessed insect hunter: The creepy-crawly origins of daylight savings](#)
- [Toroa chick dies after eating plastic at Dunedin albatross colony](#)
- [Argentine ant sniffer dog averts potential disaster on Mātū / Somes Island](#)
- [Whangārei Native Bird Recovery Centre at risk of closure if funding not found](#)
- [Researchers aim to help wild mussel beds recover around Tasman and Marlborough](#)

SoTM website links and blogs

- [SoTM blog page](#)



**Ngā mihi maioha
(with thanks and appreciation)**

Photographs:

Header and concert

Kahikatea

Dermocybe canaria (skull cap fungus)

Takahē

Kōkako (including footer)

Maritime Historic Day

Libby May

Karin Gouldstone

Dennis Rose

Jonathan Mower

Virginia Nicol

Geoff Beals



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Our mailing address is:
Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi Inc
PO Box 90814
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142
New Zealand