



GuideLines

Number 361 – 30th May 2024

Tēnā koutou katoa

(Greetings, hello to you all)



Dear guides,

DOC Ranger phone number

Please check you have the correct phone number for the Rangers as there was an error in the last Guidelines.

Correct number is

027 536 1067

Note their landline number is to be discontinued.

Guides needed – please help out if you can

We urgently need to firm up our guide bookings for these days in June -

These dates we need at least 3 more guides:

- Saturday 8 June
- Wednesday 12 June
- Saturday 15 June
- Friday 21 June
- Sunday 23 June
- Thursday 27 June (need at least 5)
- Sunday 30 June

And these dates we need 1-2 more guides

- Saturday 8 June
- Wednesday 19 June
- Thursday 20 June
- Wednesday 26 June
- Saturday 29 June

Please send to <mailto:booktoguide@tiritirimatangi.org.nz> and state departure point (especially if not a regular guide).

Mark your diaries for these events coming up

15 Sept & 21 September	Guides Days Out
28 September	Dawn Chorus event
26-28 October	Labour Day Working Weekend

Introducing ...

Our new admin volunteer, **Anne Mouat**. We welcomed Anne for her first visit to the island this month. She will be working from home supporting us with admin tasks, including recording and responding to guide bookings amongst other things. Anne's professional training is as a librarian and she has also significant experience in leading teams, workflow coordination and rostering, database management, online research and reporting and improving service delivery. Anne's personal interests include NZ wildlife, photography and water colour painting.

Volunteers who have recently started or about to start their guide training are:

- Zoe Neville-White
- Robert Vruink
- Troy McDonald
- Carmen Stapel
- Richard Meylan

We currently have eight other volunteers training to become guides.

Fleece jackets and vests – LAST CHANCE – orders close on Friday 31st May

Our shop manager Ashlea is ordering more micro-fleece jackets and if there is enough interest, the vests as well. These are available to volunteers at cost price. Feel free to get in touch with Ashlea if you have any questions.

**When you are on the island you can find the order form and more information about the garments on the daily guide log clipboard. Write your order there and you pay when you receive the goods. Or see the shop volunteers if you need help finding the order form.

How to order:

- Email Ashlea your order retail@tiritirimatangi.org.nz
- OR fill in the order form in the shop**
- Get your order in by 31st May

Micro-Fleece Jacket - Mens or Womens fit - \$74.20

Micro-Fleece Vest - Mens or Womens fit - \$63.20

- Embroidered with TMI circular emblem (same as previous years)
- Navy Blue colour
- Full length front zip
- 2x zipper pockets
- Men Sizes available: XS - S - M - L - XL - 2XL - 3XL - 5XL
- Womens Sizes available: 8 - 10 - 12 - 14 - 16 - 18 - 20 - 22 - 24

Health & Safety – emergency numbers card

Thank you to our regular guides who seem to be getting slightly miffed when I remind them

to show the emergency numbers card, because many have it at the ready as soon as they don the bum bags. Well done team – even more important to keep up the habit now we are moving into the wet winter season when slippery, wet tracks are more prevalent. Every person home safe every day!

Ngā mihi nui

Gail Reichert

Guide & Volunteer Manager
027 222 7318

Hi volunteers,

The finalists for this year's Photographic Competition have been announced. They are:

Fauna

1st Place Aaron Skelton: Tūi feeding on harakeke
2nd Place Geoff Beals: Kōkako feeding on mahoe
3rd Place Dannie Cullen: Pīwakawaka
Highly Commended Noel Herman: Wētāpunga

Flora

1st Place Carol Bates: Bisexual flower of mānuka
2nd Place Noel Herman: Pōhutukawa, Pōhutukawa Cove
3rd Place Martin Sanders: Pūawananga

Landscape/Seascape

1st Place Tim Ashby-Peckham: Lighthouse and Milky Way Core
2nd Place Pam Stephen: Sunrise from The Lighthouse
3rd Place Neil Davies: Ferry departing island

People

1st Place Martin Sanders: Exploring
2nd Place Janet Ng: Happy kids at the end of the walk
3rd Place Kay Milton: Feather sampling
Highly commended Klara Rider: PE Wētāhouse

Under 16s

1st Place Lucy Dean: Mātātā
2nd Place Sophie Jager: Tūi feeder
3rd Place Kate Butler: Ruru chicks and mum

Ngā mihi nui

Debbie Marshall

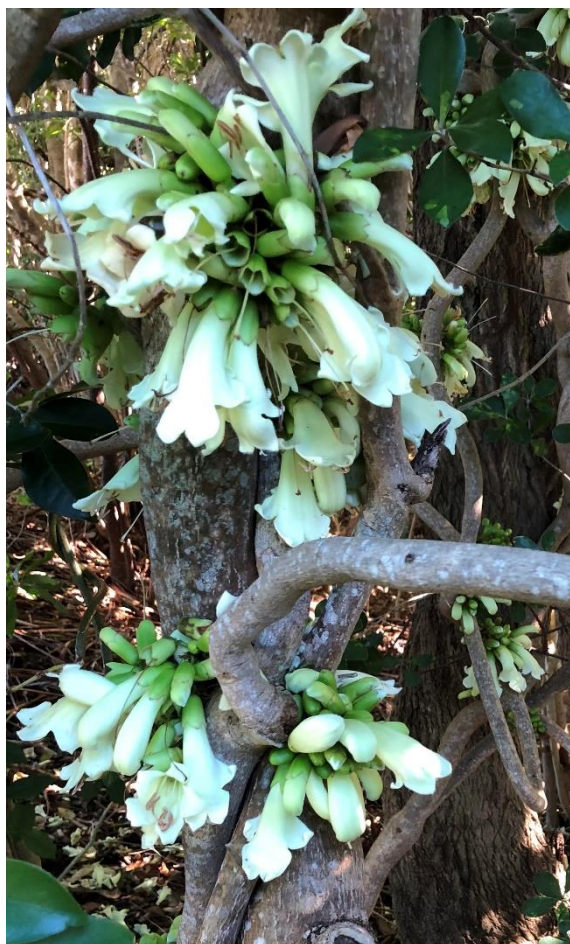
Operations Manager
021 029 01520

Flora News

By Warren Brewer

More winter flowers are appearing on Tiritiri Matangi.

Akapukaea (*Tecomanthe speciosa*). This rampant vine from the Three Kings Islands had a severe pruning several months ago. Instead of sulking it has now produced a lavish display of large creamy white trumpet shaped flowers. The vine is behind the fence across from the Visitor Centre. You have to get close between the tables to really enjoy the flowering. Note how thick the vine stems have become.



Kohekohe (*Didymocheton spectabilis*).

Another impressive flowering is occurring on many of the mature kohekohe trees on Wattle Track.

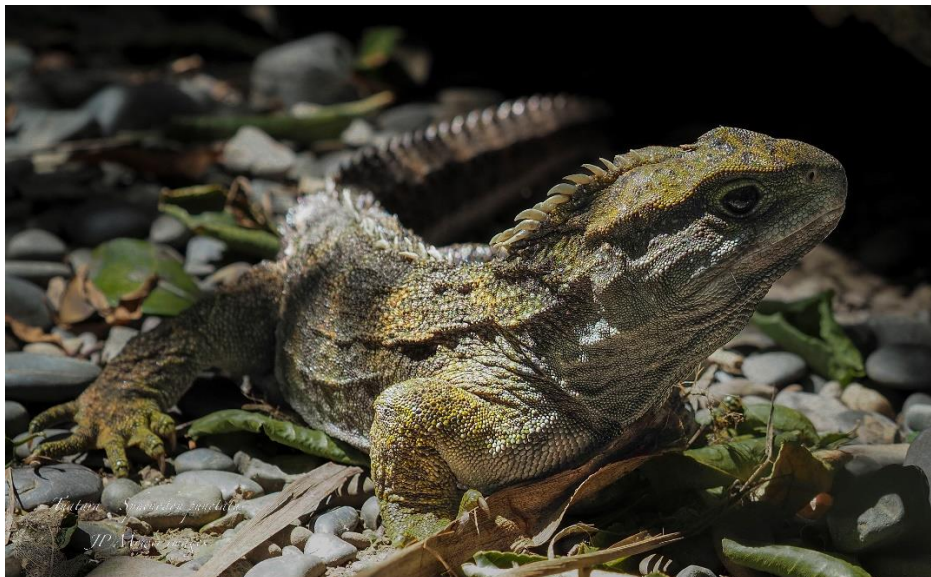
The small white waxy flowers have a subtle sweet scent and lots of nectar. Some trees have only female flowers with sterile stamens; they will bear lots of fruit. Other trees will have male flowers with usually non-functional ovaries. A few of these will form a small amount of fruit.

Kohekohe is gynodioecious, meaning it has fixed female and inconstant male flowers on separate trees.



Fauna news

Tuatara – a three-eyed monster? By Malcolm Pullan



Malcolm's in-depth study on this fascinating aspect of our favourite reptile is on our [blog here](#).

Tiritiri Matangi Talks: Wētāpunga recovery programme revisited

Chris Green will be our speaker on 10th June at 7:30pm at the Fickling Centre, 546 Mount Albert Road. Come and hear the latest on our always fascinating wētāpunga.

Tiritiri Matangi Talks
MONDAY 10TH JUNE
7:30PM

**WĒTĀPUNGA RECOVERY
PROGRAMME REVISITED**

SPEAKER:
CHRIS GREEN
PHD | HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
TE PAPA ATAWHAI - DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION

LOCATION:
FICKLING CENTRE
546 MOUNT ALBERT ROAD

SUPPORTERS of

TIRITIRI MATANGI
incorporated



PHOTO CREDIT: SIMON FORDHAM



PHOTO CREDIT:
JOHN SIBLEY

Oral Histories of Tiritiri Matangi

Tiritiri Matangi has a very colourful history and the people who have been engaged in its development have numerous stories to tell. We are endeavouring to capture some of these stories by recording the voices and memories of a number of the key people who have been involved in the island's development.

The first round of interviews were with Ray and Barbara Walter, John Craig, Neil Mitchell and Jan Velvin. Recordings and transcripts of their interviews are now available on the [guides' section of the website, here](#). We encourage you to listen to them, or to read the transcripts, as many of the stories will be of interest to our visitors. We are now looking towards raising some funds so that we can build a more comprehensive collection of oral histories about the island.

Share your best, funniest, most inspiring experiences and tales

We're currently working on promoting our Guided Walks to visitors and we need your stories. What you love about the tracks, how you feel about sharing with our very diverse visitors. The special things that only a knowledgeable and engaged Guide can add to a day on Tiritiri Matangi. We need stories for the Blog and the Newsletter. Send them through to both staceybalich@gmail.com and guidelines@tiritirimatangi.org.nz.

Ask the Experts

Question: "Is there evidence to show that kumara were actually grown on Tiritiri Matangi or is the evidence confined to their storage on the island?"

Answer: It has been hard to find definitive answers to this question. The best source of information has been Anne Rimmer's original book "Tiritiri Matangi: A Model of Conservation" which she generously shared in a format that's allowed for copy / paste of appropriate sections:

- *...methods of storage had to be devised to protect root crops such as kumara over the cold winter months. Five kumara pits can still be seen as shallow rectangular hollows in specially mown areas on Tiri.*
- *In 1981, Wynne Spring-Rice, an archaeology graduate student at Auckland University, recorded 26 sites such as dwelling terraces, middens (rubbish dumps) and kumara pits*
- *The pa dwellers planted their gardens within the forest to conceal them from raiders. One such garden was located at the top of Bush 22. Kumara and gourds may have been grown there.*
- Two of the alternative translations of 'Tiritiri Matangi' are:
 - *'Tiritiri is a twig placed in the ground to indicate the position of a kumara tuber, matangi, the warm north-east breeze.'*
 - *'The gathering place of the winds on the north-east horizon where the kumara grow'.*

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

Monday 10th June

Supporters' Weekends

Saturday 13th July

Saturday 7th September

Saturday 5th October

Working Weekends

King's Birthday Weekend – 1st - 3rd June

Focus on Te Reo Māori

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

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>

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/190hdBjzxyx_2Cpe8DC8aMI4mlyZUShyqjW62rN-6hvY/edit?usp=sharing

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.

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.

SoTM website links and blogs

- [SoTM blog page](#)

Cybersleuth

- [Make way – sea lions back on home turf](#)
- [From one pair to many: these volunteers saved this Auckland kōkako population](#)
- [South Waikato farmers secure funding for predator-free initiative](#)
- [More valuable than gold: New Zealand feather becomes the most expensive in the world](#)
- [Alaska's rusting waters: Pristine rivers and streams turning orange](#)
- [Mexico heatwave: Howler monkeys are falling dead from the trees](#)
- [As reservoirs go dry, Mexico City and Bogota are staring down 'Day Zero'](#)



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

Photographs:

Header
Flora
Tuatara
Footer

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Jonathan Mower
Julie Cotterill



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