



GuideLines

Number 366 – 8 August 2024

Tēnā koutou katoa

(Greetings, hello to you all)



Tena koutou guides

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Guide Manager – change of days

Debbie is starting her well-deserved holiday on 16 August and will be away until 12 October. During that time Stacey Balich will be covering Guide Manager role on Thursdays, which means the Guide Manager role will be covered as follows:

- Wednesday, Friday, Saturday – Gail – 027 222 7318
- Thursday – Stacey – 021 253 6293
- Sunday – Yvonne – 027 667 0367

Please check you have Stacey's number in your phone for Thursday guiding.

Guide bookings

Anne Mouat continues to cover most of your booking requests, working Mon-Fri for approximately 2 hours each morning. If you want a 'same day or next day' response it's best to get your requests in before 10am each week day. Guides enjoyed seeing Anne on the island again last Friday. She is planning on more visits to meet as many guides in person as possible, as her other commitments allow.

Ferry cancellation phone message

If you use the phone service to check if the ferry is running, we will post the cancellation message from 5.30pm on the day prior to the cancellation.

H&S Sign on sheets

We have now tested out the process of having guides 'sign on' while on the ferry each day, and it seems to be working well. I've had some questions about the 'comments' column – an example of what you can use that for is to indicate if you don't feel able to guide a particular track that day. You don't need to indicate the reason, just the track to avoid allocating you to. This would help the Guide Manager with planning guide allocations before we get to the island.

Daily guide log – what information is useful

Thank you for regularly completing the daily guide log at the end of your walks. Anne is entering the information in your volunteer record in the membership database, which you can access through the subscription link on the website.

Here's what we ask you record in the log:

- **Group:** School, Public, Specialist
 - This will sometimes be filled in for you if you are allocated to guide a school group or a specialist group
 - **No. in group:** How many people are in your group
 - If you'd like to add more information on the group's composition, eg a family; number of children; students vs parent helpers vs teachers, etc), add it into the comments section. Please also record the country of origin of international visitors here.
 - **Track:** W - Wattle; K - Kawerau; MR - Moana Rua (or Coast to Coast), etc
 - This will be blank if you're allocated to track work or other tasks
-

Moana Rua track – finding your way

The Advocacy team have put orange directional 'blazes' on the Moana Rua track to help guides navigate successfully.

For reference and recognition, below you'll find photos of the ones you'll find at Spaghetti Junction.



Guides in training and fledged

We welcome guides new to our training recently:

- Harrison Shaw
- James Hedley
- Victoria (Vicki) Beck
- Sara Rishworth
- Jazmyn Green

And recently **Ai Gomi** fledged as a guide after starting her training late 2023.

Guides returning after time off

At the recent Main Committee meeting approval was given to setting the standard that if guides have not guided for 12 months or more, they are required to not only do a 'buddy guide' but also to be reviewed for their current practice by an experienced senior guide. This is to ensure that returning guides stay current and up to date with developments in our processes and have current knowledge of tracks.

In support of this I give you a one of my favourite whakatauki (proverb)

E hara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini

My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective

We all learn together on Tiritiri Matangi.

Guides Day(s) Out

Introducing some more of our facilitators:

- **Dave Towns**, Professor Emeritus AUT, conservation biologist and ecologist is running a workshop on island ecosystem drivers, and leading a herpetofauna walk.
- **Chris Green**, Honorary Research Associate with DOC will run a workshop on wetapunga and lead an entomological guided walk about invertebrate interaction.
- Our **SoTM Reptile team** will guide walks and run workshops on both days.

Booking numbers are getting quite high, so make sure you have your name on a seat. Sunday 15 September and Saturday 21 September. Email booktoguide@tiritirimatangi.org.nz

Guides needed – can you help?

We have the following gaps in the coming weeks:

Weds	14 Aug	3-4 guides needed urgently
Sat	17 Aug	3 guides needed
Weds	21 Aug	5 guides needed
Fri	23 Aug	3 guides needed

The final words

As guides you help every person you guide have lifelong memories of our special motu. I enjoy reading your comments on the guide log – here are a couple that show the joy and pleasure that you get from sharing your love with visitors:

- “Brilliant walk with several Chinese families. No prior knowledge but clearly interested – many birds and wetapunga which some found scary.”
- “Lovely group of children. Very supportive adults with the group. Lots of enthusiasm.”
- “So keen to learn – loved the Māori stories. Teacher prepared children well.”

Thank you for everything you do as volunteers on the island. You are the heart and soul of Tiritiri Matangi. Your efforts resonate across generations and around the world!

Gail Reichert

Guide & Volunteer Manager

027 222 7318

Hi team

As part of our fundraising we have been registered and were successful in participating in the Z "Good in the Hood" programme. This involves our organisation being advertised in three Z stations - Silverdale, Hunters Corner and Glen Innes - between the dates of 26 August and 22nd September. This fundraising effort is to fund the renewal and redesign of our signage - mainly our large bird identification signs.

We have been offered 'concierge dates' in Silverdale where volunteers can mingle with the customers, who you may want to talk to about your group and possibly win their vote. This will also give you the opportunity to meet the Z team at the site.

We are hoping we will get similar invitations from Hunters Corner and Glen Innes.

We would love some volunteers to be able to be at the forecourt to talk to customers and hopefully get votes for our fundraiser. If you are able to do this, can you please let us know so that we can book some 'concierge dates'.

Ngā mihi nui

Debbie Marshall

Operations Manager

Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi Island

021 029 01520

Flora News

By Warren Brewer

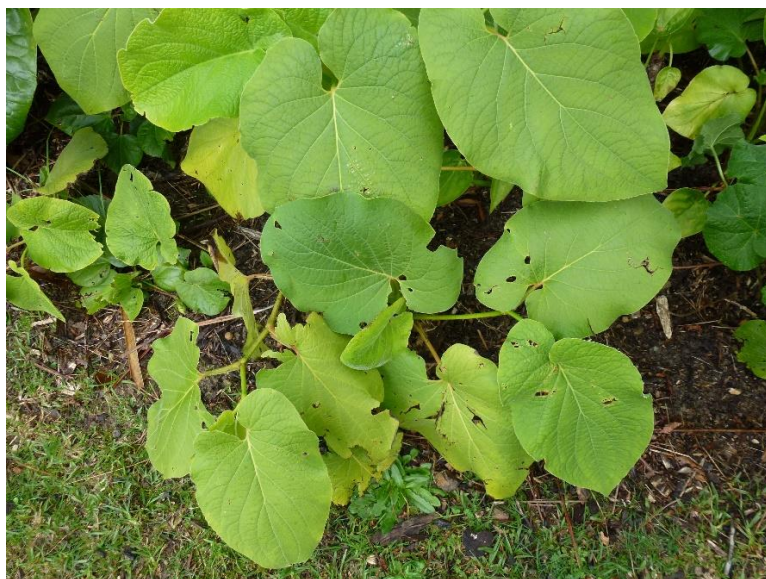
Kawakawa and the pepper family - Part Two.

The familiar condiment **pepper** (*Piper nigrum*) is a climbing vine, native to Southern India, but now also widely planted in Asia. Its small flowers develop on pendulous spikes, forming small fruits. When dried the kernels of the fruits are known as peppercorns.



White pepper

From the South Pacific, **kava** (*Piper methysticum*) has larger leaves than kawakawa. It is a sterile cultivar, propagated from stem cuttings. The stimulating, analgesic drink kava is made from powdered root material. Methysticum means intoxicating. The gem stone amethyst comes from Greek for “not drunken”, the wearing of this jewel being supposed to prevent intoxication.



Kava bush (left) and showing sterile flower spike (right)

On Tiritiri Matangi there is another member of the pepper family, **peperomia** (*Peperomia urvilleana*). It is a perennial herb which prefers to grow in shade or semi shade on rocky cliff faces.

Its fleshy oval leaves store water in a transparent upper layer. The plant's flowers are minute, perfect and densely packed on slender spikes. As fruit ripens small black seeds form which are covered in a sticky residue to aid their dispersal.



Peperomia is a large genus with species mostly found in tropical South America and Southern Asia. Many of the species are used as house plants or, in warmer areas, garden plants. Our peperomia plant is a native as examples are also present on Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands.

Peperomia comes from Greek, "resembling pepper."

Urvilleana honours Dumont d'Urville, French naval officer, explorer and botanist, commander of the Astrolabe which visited coastal northern New Zealand in 1827. Also serving on Astrolabe was Pierre Adolphe Lesson, surgeon/botanist after whom **houpara** (*Pseudopanax lesson*) was named.

Unusual Fungus

Volunteer Akemi Oki spotted this vibrant orange fungus on Hobbs Beach. The iNaturalist website has identified it as fusicolla, common name the classically inspired 'deer vomit fungus'. Yvonne has made contact with some people to see if this is a known Tiritiri Matangi fungus without success. Can anyone help with any previous knowledge of this as previously sighted, or is it a new (possibly invasive) arrival. Any feedback please email guidelines@tiritirimatangi.org.nz.



Fauna news

Volunteer Opportunity – Rifleman / Titipounamu Surveying



Every late August / early September, since they were introduced in 2009, we have conducted a pre-breeding survey of rifleman / titipounamu. However, most of our observations are made in the following weeks, many of those by casual observers, including guides.

To assist with this, we would like to train a handful of guides to find and identify birds, and to record and report sightings using a smartphone mapping app. There may also be opportunities to assist with nest-box monitoring. The training will run from Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th September (three nights). You won't necessarily need to be there for the full four days, but preference will be given to those that can.

The intention is that, whenever you are on the Island, you will then be able to accurately report any sightings. You will need binoculars and a smartphone. The following known skills would be an advantage, but can be acquired or enhanced during training:

- Familiarity with rifleman / titipounamu, particularly the ability to knowingly hear them.
- Ability to identify males, females and juveniles.
- Ability to read band combinations.
- Familiarity with a smartphone app. Guru Maps or Maps ME are preferred.

If interested and available, please email Simon Fordham tiri@naturepix.co.nz, advising current skills and which nights you would be available to stay on the Island.

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

Annual General Meeting

16th September at 7:30pm
MinterEllisonRuddWatts Seminar Room, PWC Tower,
15 Customs Street West, Auckland City

Dawn Chorus

28th September ([details here](#))

Supporters' Weekends

Saturday 7th September
Saturday 5th October

Working Weekends

Labour weekend – 26th October

Explore special deals:

“Take your Dad for free!”

Dads go free on Father’s Day

Promo code:

Valid for sales until Saturday 31st August and for travel on Father’s Day, Sunday 1 September 2024

DADSGOFREE

<https://www.explore.co.nz/explore/special-deals/dads-go-free/>

Do you know a young conservationist dedicated to helping te taiao thrive? Or a school student who demonstrates kaitiakitanga (guardianship) in their local community or school?

SUPPORTERS OF TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND PRESENT

JUNIOR CONSERVATION AWARDS



We want to celebrate those primary/intermediate school eco-champions who, inspired by the Tiritiri Matangi Restoration Project, are making a positive contribution towards promoting a message of kaitiakitanga – guardianship of our natural world.

To take part, visit our website to complete the nomination form explaining why this person is an eco-champion.

THE WINNER OF THIS AWARD WILL ENJOY A FREE TRIP TO TIRITIRI MATANGI FOR 2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 18TH OCTOBER
WWW.TIRITIRIMATANGI.ORG.NZ/SCHOOL-SCIENCE-AWARDS/



SoTM website links and blogs

- [Guides resource section](#) (password is **guides** – all lower case)
- [SoTM blog page](#)

Tiritiri Matangi Oral Histories

- [Oral Histories](#)

Cybersleuth

- [Waipā District: Bats and business boosted by Airport land development](#)
- [Rise of the phoenix: The return of the frosted phoenix moth](#)
- [Uni students visit all 51 of Auckland’s mainland volcanoes in one day](#)
- [Species at risk with support for community conservation groups ‘drying up’ as pest animals threaten New Zealand native birds and other species](#)
- [End of the road for cane toad? Plan targets spread of pest](#)
- [Controversial idea to save corals would replace them with new species](#)
- [Flying foxes moving west across Australia in search of homes and food](#)

- [Dung beetles cleaning up Katikati farms as part of a 10-year trial](#)
- [Free labour: How bird poo is helping replant our native forests](#)



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

Photographs:

Header (Hemi does Gandalf)
Flora (white pepper – file photo)
Titipounamu
Footer - male pūriri moth

Virginia Nicol
Warren Brewer
Alison Forbes
Jonathan Mower

Correction to last week's attributions:

Flying tūī

Wanderwild Photography



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